# THE EXAMINER.

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## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT

No. 238.

### PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES TO THE WORLD, IN THE EVENT OF BONAPARTE'S DEATH.

BONAPARTE, it seems, was killed the other day for the hundred and fiftieth time; and after affording a proper leisure to our journalists for speculating upon his demise, recovered in his usual surprising manner, and is now as well as ever. —This is one of the old tricks of the Stock-jobbers, who exceed all that the Witches did formerly, and make nothing of putting a man to death at a thousand miles' distance; and as credulity and the spirit of gambling necessarily go hand in hand, the death of such a man as BONAPARTE is an event that will always be new and effectual as long as they chuse to practice it. Some colour was given to the rumour in consequence of extraordinary meetings of the Conservative Senate, and more from a reported declaration of PLATOW, the Chief of the Cossacks, that he would bestow his only daughter with a large dowry on any one, who should bring the FRENCH EMPEROR to him dead or alive; but the jobbers do not appear to have thought it worth their while to refer to this latter circumstance, and he was said to have met with his death, like an ORLANDO or King ARTHUR, in the heat of battle. The ignorance of these gentlemen is quite poetical. The Duke of MARLBOROUGH in his day, used to be represented by his rhyming panegyrists as sparkling in all points of the field and mowing his way through the headless ranks of the enemy; and there was a grand engraving, we understand, published a short time since at Lisbon, in which Lord WELLINGTON was heroified in a similar manner. They forget that it is not only the policy, but the duty of a General, to keep as much as possible out of danger; and that since the affair of Lodi, when BONAPARTE headed his troops over the bridge as a kind of forlorn hope, he has never ventured his person in battle. It was in his last war with the Russians, we believe, that happening to be struck on the heel of his boot with a spent ball, he thought fit to apologize to those about him, and said "J'etois trop curieux"—I was too inquisitive.*

NAPOLEON however (to speak after the manner of the *Morning Post*) is mortal as well as other men:—he undergoes also more fatigues than most people, besides being subject, if general report may be trusted, to fits of an alarming description; and as his own bodily system may do for him what cannot be compassed by more infernal machines, or by the united forces of Change Alley and the Cossacks, it may not be unpleasant or uninstructive to consider the probable consequences of his death, should it happen in the present war or at no great distance of time.—The first question is the continuation of his family on the throne. This, we are assured by the most approved writers on a particular side, cannot possibly be the case, inasmuch as when the soul that keeps up his unwieldy empire is no more, the body must of necessity tumble to pieces. They forget what a compliment is implied to BONAPARTE by this mode of talking, though they have told us over and over again, that luck and not genius was the establisher of his greatness. But it is curious to see how apt weak minds are to fancy that they are reasoning, when they are only repeating some common phrase or figure of speech, which is in use on particular occasions. ALEXANDER'S empire was split, when he was no more; CHARLEMAGNE'S was divided, when he was no more; and therefore NAPOLEON'S, not having even a legitimate foundation, must be entirely subverted on the same principle: but the fact is, that none of these cases, or of others that are reckoned similar, are really alike. The times, the manners, the political and domestic circumstances, are all different. To advert only to the last consideration,—ALEXANDER had no children or connexions, and his empire necessarily fell into the hands of his Generals:—CHARLEMAGNE, on the other hand, had too many children, and their participation of his empire, according to the fatal custom of that age, prepared it's dissolution; but

* The *Courier*, in alluding to the mention of Lodi by a morning paper, contradicts the circumstance which is generally related of BONAPARTE on that occasion, and informs us, without taking the trouble of mentioning so frivolous a thing as an authority, that "it was AUGEREAU and not he, that planted the standard on the bridge, and drove the Austrians from it." It also assures us, with the same pithiness of information, and as an additional specimen of its knowledge on these points, that at the battle of Marengo he was "at a league from the field," and had "given all over as lost." We do not presume, like our profound brother journalist, to settle the distances on these occasions, or to fathom the thoughts of Generals who are not accustomed to express them; but the fact, we believe, generally received respecting the battle of Lodi, is that BONAPARTE headed his troops and drove the Austrians from the bridge *in consequence* of AUGEREAU'S ineffectual endeavours to do so. The *Courier*, as might be expected, was quite learned on the score of stock-jobbing, and could not help acknowledging it's full sense of the productiveness of such a report as BONAPARTE'S death. On this subject, it afforded a most happy specimen of the old inconsistency respecting the Parisians and the expression of their opinions. On Monday it informs us, that "the length and frequency of the sittings (of the Conservative Senate) had occasioned considerable surprise and *speculation* at Paris;"—but as the letters from that city unfortunately happened to be silent on the subject, we are told, *vice versa*, on the very next day, that, "no inference is to be drawn one way or the other from this silence," because, "no man at Paris hazards his personal safety, by making the *slightest mention or allusion to political intelligence*."—See the leading articles in the *Courier*, of September the 7th and 8th.

Bonaparte has both an heir to his throne, and a strong connection with another great throne; the state of modern manners and education will enable him to bring up his child as he pleases; participations of empire have long been out of fashion; and even if he should die immediately, it is as clearly the interest, as it would naturally be the first feeling, of his subjects to continue his family on the throne, unless they should again declare for Independence and a Republic. But Cromwell is mentioned as another prototype of a successless dynasty; and here again there is no similitude. Cromwell, in the first place, had not established himself with any certainty as to the future: he had not prepared the minds of the People for a new dynasty by any regality on his own part: he had no great connection; his children were not royally brought up; the taste, manners, and political feelings of his time were as different as possible from those of the modern French; and above all, rank and property had undergone no such change as they have in France, where influence, honours, and possessions of every kind, have passed into other hands, and all the effect of the importance of the old regime, if any such importance remains, can only be to create additional distaste towards it in the new. It is possible that symptoms of a turbulent ambition might appear in Bonaparte's Generals, in case of his sudden demise; but it is not very probable, considering the great distance there is between him and them in point of genius and influence; and the only person of his own family, who would have sufficient talents to disturb the succession, appears to have no ambition that way. The first feeling of every body would most likely be an anxiety to take care of his own possessions, and consequently a resolution to maintain the Empress and her Son in theirs; and at all events, it is as clear to us as noonday, —whatever may be the opinion at Carlton House, where no sort of "daylight," it seems, is fashionable,—that the Bourbons have no more chance of returning to Versailles, than Versailles will come over to the Bourbons. Princes may try to persuade themselves and each other, that to be once a Prince, and to have hats pulled off to them on a parade, are circumstances that ensure them the good will and assistance of people for ever; but surely the least common sense should teach them otherwise after all they have seen for these twenty years. The Bourbons, with the exception of their misfortunes, which will always secure them a certain degree of sympathy, however they assisted in bringing the ruin upon themselves, have no one claim upon the attachment or respect of their countrymen; and they enjoy as little of either, we believe, as any other set of common-place persons without repute. Louis the 16th was the best of them all, and he was a weak man; but the rest, generally speaking, were only known for their frivolous pursuits and intrigues,—for their gamblings, dissipations, and idle selfishness;—and what is there in all this to disturb a new state of things, in which talent has made it's way to property and power?

To all the causes of continuance, with which the new dynasty is furnished by these circumstances, is to be added the countenance of the Austrian Emperor. Whatever may be the secret feelings of the House of Austria and the family of Bonaparte towards each other, they are too closely connected through the Princess Louisa to have separate interests in the succession; and as the young Emperor, while he comes after a Monarch, who has covered the French with what they call glory, may reasonably look upon himself as half "legitimate," even with the eyes of the old regime, he will probably find little or no difficulty, by the help of common attention on the part of his mother, in seating himself whole and sound on the throne, to the satisfaction of all parties. The old Courtiers will conclude that they shall make their way with him on the mother's side,—the new, that they shall retain their ascendancy on the strength of his father;—and from the expectations of both, from the attachment of the soldiery, and the general dread of a new revolution, the Court will play its game badly indeed if it do not derive lasting security. The danger of a counter-ambition in Bonaparte's officers is not likely, as we have already observed, on account of their general inferiority in talents; and to this must be added their mutual jealousy, and the care which their master has taken to establish the possessions, from which they draw their titles and revenues, at a distance from his centre of Government.—Of the only two, whose authority or genius might apparently tempt them to pretend to the succession, one is already heir to a kingdom of his own, and the other an exile far removed from all habits of intercourse with his countrymen. As to the Republicans, of whom we sometimes hear, and who might wish to restore freedom, or the chance of freedom, where are they to be found? Some of the most violent of them have notoriously gone to the other extreme, and become the gentlest of Courtiers; others are Imperial Generals, covered like the former with riches and titles; others again, who have not sufficiently relaxed from their principles either to fawn or to fight in behalf of despotism, have been suffered to live at their ease on large fortunes, which have an amazing tendency to lull down the spirit of freedom: so that what between shame and interest on one side, and the want of habit on the other, the Republican leaders are not likely to move in favour of a new convulsion, which might gain them nothing and lose them every thing. The state of things therefore appears, at all points, to be in favour of the new dynasty; and Europe is most probably destined to see the family of a Corsican gentleman quietly furnishing a series of legitimate Emperors, whose very name till of late years has scarcely been known to exist. †

† Napoleon, we have no doubt, is now a very common appellation in France, yet till Bonaparte made it famous, it appears to have been one of the obscurest even in Italy. Mr. Capell Lofft, a good Italian scholar and a gentleman of considerable reading, mentions in a periodical work, if we remember, that he had never met with it but twice. To his two authorities may be added that of Tassoni; who in his *Reps*

That all the present dependencies of France will hold together after the death of NAPOLEON is not to be expected; for though the balance of power, which was so fondly thought by the European Historians to be irreversibly established, has proved a mere nonentity in an age of weak Princes and an ambitious Captain, yet nothing but great talents can outweigh the general sense of interest which kingdoms have in maintaining it; and in the event of BONAPARTE's death, things will not only have a natural tendency to return to their former equilibrium, but the new dynasty, taking advantage of what would otherwise be an evil, will have an opportunity of securing the better part of its acquisitions by making over the remainder to friends and expectants. By these means, the FRENCH EMPRESS may take care of the interests of her son both at home and abroad, and at the same time provide in Italy, Holland, and elsewhere for a set of relations by marriage, with whom she is too little connected perhaps to be at her ease, and certainly too much to be able to throw them off. Thus Holland might be restored to LOUIS;—JEROME and MURAT might remain where they are, or if Austria have some family compunctions about the KING of SICILY, MURAT might be indemnified in another part of Italy;—the family of BEAUHARNOIS might be made something or nothing, according as LOUISA is kindly or jealously disposed towards the Empress JOSEPHINE; and if LUCIEN, after all, chose to give up his poetry and philosophy for a Princedom, it would be hard if in an Imperial Hotel at Paris, he could not become the means of throwing additional splendour round the throne by his taste and his spirit of patronage.

But would England,—it will be impatiently asked,—suffer all this?—To be sure she would, if experience has done her any service; for what could be her object in opposing it? Not her enemy's ambition, for that would exist no longer, at least not in its former threatening shape;—not her own safety, for the division of power would of necessity tend to her security as well as to that of France; not the rescue of Spain, for Spain would inevitably be left to itself. Nothing could induce us to continue the war, but one of two absurdities;—either an impatience to see any thing established without our permission, or an attempt, in spite of twenty years' experience, to replace the BOURBONS on the throne.

Let us hope that neither the politics of our old Court nor those of our new would perpetuate errors so mournfully ridiculous. The world wants repose, in order to enjoy the means of that improvement, which, amidst all the evils it has suffered, Providence has been working out for its future good. Here would be the great blessings of NAPOLEON's death, and if we interfered to prevent it, we should become heirs to all his enormities. What would it signify, if one family whose name begins with a B should reign instead of another family whose name begins with a B? It will not be denied that there is more chance for ability in the BONAPARTES than the BOURBONS; and good sense, with a wish to make the best use of their respective possessions, is what Europe will most want in its sovereigns. Are we afraid that one family should possess too much power? Divided interests will render them no longer formidable. The House of Austria and the younger branches of the BONAPARTES will ever have a natural jealousy of each other, which though not sufficient in the outset to make them neglect their common security, will prevent any such aggregate strength in future as is now concentrated in the hands of a conqueror. Our policy, therefore, would decidedly be to strike up an universal peace, and to encourage a general *look at home* all over the world, in order that mankind may sit down at last, after all their toils, to consider what experience they have acquired, and what improvements they can establish.

There are some blessings, which must inevitably ensue from the French revolution, and which, as things are constituted in this world, could hardly have been produced without political convulsions. In the first place, Superstition has had her death-blow:—even the Spaniards, by being thrown into collision with us, have found out that heretics can be the bravest and most generous people of their acquaintance,—at least, that they are good looking human beings, and have the received heads and limbs of men in general:‡—this collision they will never forget, and we shall have done as much to insinuate liberal opinion among them as BONAPARTE has to force it. In the next place, legislation has taken a decided step. If the French are still under a despotic government, they have at least known laws and a code to refer to; and in the natural progress of knowledge, a liberality has crept into despotism, which it cannot in decency avoid. Thus, in the Code Napoleon, there are not wanting some imperfect imitations even of our own Constitution, as in the Trial by Jury for instance; and a BENTHAM cannot pursue his profound and simple speculations among us for the amelioration of society, but they reach into the very centre of military empire, and obtain that countenance from the policy, which they might in vain expect from the disposition of it's founder. The stir, in fact, which was made about the Rights of Men has not altogether been without effect, however one extreme may have appeared lost in another. No person, or set of persons, pretend nowadays to set about altering the government of a people, but it is done with the pen in their hands:—mind has looked body in the face; it has forced the respect of physical

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of the *Bucket* speaks of a terrible thump given in the course of the struggle to one NAPULION. *Secchia Rapita*. Canto I. st. 49. There is also a Saint of this name, we believe, in the Romish Calendar, after whom BONAPARTE is said to have been christened.

‡ We *forget* in what book it is mentioned, but we believe in the Memoirs of Captain CARLETON, an officer who served under Lord PETERBOROUGH in Spain, that some of the more secluded and ignorant part of the Spanish devotees,—perhaps the whole of the lower part of them,—supposed a heretic to be a different animal from another human being, and to have some mark of monstrosity upon him, as the head of a bear, &c.

power; and conquest no longer claims the services even of it's slaves without regarding them as reasoning beings, and giving them something like laws of their own.

It will depend then principally upon us, whether in the event of that man's death, whose ambition hinders the very improvements which his sense would establish, we will suffer our fellow-creatures to reap the only real fruits of their toil, and to work up for their use those stubborn materials which Providence has been assisting them to break. If we do not, we shall lose the greatest opportunity of glory that has yet been offered us, and take upon ourselves all the blood-guiltiness of our enemies;—if we do, France may again settle in her old limits, Spain may chuse her own sovereign, the rest of the European states may be independant, ourselves may look in peace and at leisure to the perfections of our laws and the revivification of our Constitution, the new world and the old may commence a joyous intercourse over the waters, superstition may be finally overthrown, legislation be irreversibly set up, and the whole human race take that advance in knowledge and happiness which Providence, we doubt not, has been preparing for it.

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## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

### FRANCE.

### THIRTEENTH BULLETIN OF THE GRAND ARMY.

*Smolensko, August 21.*

It appears that in the battle of Mohilow gained over Prince Bagration the loss of the enemy has been considerable. The Duke of Tarente found twenty pieces of cannon in Dunabourg, in place of eight, as had been announced; he obliged several ships laden with more than 40,000 bombs and other projectiles to retire—an immense quantity of ammunition was destroyed by the enemy. The ignorance of the Russians in constructing fortifications is apparent in the works of Dunabourg and Drissa; his Majesty gave the command of his right to the Prince of Schwartzenburg, by placing under his orders the 2d corps. This Prince marched against General Tormasow; met and defeated him on the 12th; he pays the highest compliments to the Saxon and Austrian troops; the Prince Schwartzenburg shewed in these circumstances equal activity. The Emperor has requested promotion and rewards for the Officers of his Corps d'armee who have distinguished themselves.

On the 8th, the Grand Army was placed in the following manner. The Prince Viceroy was at Souria with the 4th corps, his advanced guards occupying Vilys, Ousveath and Porulsop. The King of Naples was at Mkoulowo, his cavalry occupied Inkovo. Marshal the Duke of Elchingen, Commandant of the 1st corps, was at Doubrolwa. The 5th corps, commanded by the Prince Poniatowski, was at Mohilow. The head-quarters were at Witepsk. The 2d corps, commanded by the Duke of Reggio, was upon the Drissa. The 10th corps, commanded by the Duke of Tarente, was upon Dunaboorg and Riga.

On the 8th; 12,000 of the enemy's cavalry marched upon Inkovo, and attacked General Count Sebastiani's division, which for half a league was obliged to fight retreating all the day, suffering and causing equal loss to the enemy. A company of voltigeurs of the 24th Regiment of light infantry, forming a part of a battalion of that regiment which had been confided to the cavalry to maintain a position in the wood, was taken. We had about 200 killed and wounded; the enemy may have lost the same number of men. On the 12th the enemy's army, having united at Smolensko, marched by different points with equal slowness and hesitation upon Boreitch and Nadra. The Prince of Eckmuhl collected all his troops in order to march against the enemy and take possession of Smolensko by proceeding thither by the other side of the Borysthenes. The King of Naples and Duke of Elchingen set out from Liozna and marched upon the Borysthenes, near to the embouchier of Berezina, opposite Khomeno, where, on the night between the 13th and 14th, they threw two bridges over. The Viceroy marched by Janovitski and Lienyavitsch to Rasasna, where he arrived on the 14th. General Count Grouchy collected the 3d corps of cavalry at Rasasna, on the 12th. The Prince of Eckmuhl collected all his corps at Doubrowna, on the 13th. General Count Eble threw three bridges over Rasasna, on the 13 h. The head-quarters set out on the 13th from Witepsk, and arrived at Rasasna on the 13th. Prince Poniatowski set out from Mohilow, and on the 13th arrived at Romanzo. On the 14th, at break of day, General Grouchy marched upon Lenobri, chased two regiments of Cossacks from it, and there found the corps of General Nansouty. The same day the King of Naples, supported by the Duke of Elchingen, arrived at Krasnoi. The 27th enemy's division, consisting of 5000 infantry, supported by 2000 cavalry and 12 pieces of cannon, was in a position before that town: it was forced in an instant by the Duke of Elchingen. The 24th regiment of light infantry attacked the small town of Krasnoi with the bayonet, with great intrepidity; the cavalry executed some admirable charges. The taking of eight pieces of cannon, 14 caissons, 1500 prisoners, with a field covered with more than 1000 Russian corpses, were the advantages of the battle of Krasnoi, in which the Russian division, consisting of 5000 men, suffered a loss of half its number.

His Majesty on the 15th, had his head quarters at Kovonitnia. On the 16th, in the morning, the heigths of Smolensko were commanded. The town presented to our view an inclosure of walls of 4000 toises, ten feet thick and twenty five high, intersected with towers, several of which were armed with cannon of a heavy calibre. Upon the right of the Borysthenes, we perceived that the enemy faced about, and hastily retraced their steps to defend Smolensko. We knew that the enemy's Generals had received reiterated orders to give battle and save Smolensko. The Emperor reconnoitred the town, and placed his army in its position on the day of the 16th. The Marshal Duke of Elchingen had the left, bearing on the Borysthenes; the Prince of Eckmuhl, the centre; Prince Poniatowski, the right; the guard was placed in reserve in the centre; the Viceroy, in reserve on the right, and the cavalry, under the orders of the King of Naples, at the extremity of the right; the Duke of Abrantes, with the 8th corps, lost their way and made a false movement. The 16th and half of the 17th was passed in observation. A fire of musquetry was kept up along the line. The enemy occupied Smolensko with 80,000 men, and the remainder of their army was formed upon the fine positions upon the right bank of that river opposite to the town, and communicating by three bridges. Smolensko is considered as a strong town by the Russians, and the bulwark of Moscow. On the 17th at two in the afternoon,—seeing that the enemy had not debouched, that they were fortifying themselves in Smolensko, and that they refused battle, notwithstanding the orders they had received, and the fine positions they might have taken, their right upon Smolensko, and their left upon the course of the Borysthenes, the enemy's General wanting resolution,—the Emperor marched upon the right, and ordered Prince Poniatowski to change his front, the right in advance, and to place his right to the Borysthenes, occupying one of the suburbs by posts and batteries to destroy the bridge, and interrupt the communication of the town with the right bank. During this time the Prince of Eckmuhl received orders to attack two of the suburbs, which the enemy had entrenched, at 200 toises distance from the town, and which were each defended by 7 or 8000 men, and heavy cannon. General Count Friant had orders to complete the investment, in leaning his right towards Prince Poniatowski's corps, and his left to the right of the attack made by the Prince of Eckmuhl. At two in the afternoon, Count Bruyere's division of cavalry, after having driven away the Cossacks and enemy's cavalry, approached the bridge highest up the river; a battery of ten pieces of artillery was established upon this ground, and fired

with grape shot upon that part of the enemy's army which was upon the right bank of the river, and quickly obliged the Russian masses of infantry to evacuate that position. The enemy then placed two batteries, of twenty pieces of cannon, in a convent, to annoy the battery which played upon the bridge. The Prince of Eckmuhl entrusted the attack of the right suburbs to Count Morand, and that of the left to General Count Gudeu. At three the cannonade commenced; at half past four a very brisk fire of musquetry began, and at five the divisions of Morand and Gudin carried the entrenched enemy's suburbs, with a cool and rare intrepidity, and pursued them to the covered way, which was covered with Russian dead. Upon our left the Duke of Elchingen attacked the position which the enemy had without the town, seized upon it, and pursued the enemy to the glacis. At five o'clock the communication of the town with the right bank became difficult, and could only be accomplished by isolated men. Three batteries of breaching, twelve pounders, were placed against the wall at six in the evening; one by Friant's division, and the two others by Morand and Gudeu's divisions. We drove the enemy from all the town by howitzers, which played upon them. The General of artillery, Count Sorbier, rendered the occupation of the covered way by the enemy impossible, by two enfiladed batteries. Nevertheless the enemy, who from two in the afternoon perceived we had serious intentions against the town, sent two divisions and two regiments of infantry of the Guard, to reinforce the four divisions which were in the town. These united forces composed half of the Russian army. The battle continued the whole night; three breaching batteries played with the utmost activity. Two companies of miners were attached to the ramparts. The town was now on fire in the middle of a fine August night. Smolensko offered the French a spectacle similar to that which an eruption of Vesuvius presents to the inhabitants of Naples. An hour after midnight the enemy abandoned the town, and retired across the river. At two o'clock the grenadiers who first led to the attack, no longer found resistance; the place was evacuated; 200 pieces of cannon, and one of the first towns in Russia, were in our power, and that, too, in sight of the whole Russian army. The combat of Smolensko, which we might justly term a battle, an hundred thousand men having been engaged on the different sides, caused the Russians a loss of 4,700 men left dead on the field of battle, of 2000 prisoners, the greater part of which are wounded, and of 7 to 8000 wounded. Amongst the dead were found five Russian Generals. Our loss amounts to 700 killed and 3,100 or 3,200 wounded. The General of Brigade, Grabouski, was killed, and the Generals of Brigade, Grandeau and Dalton, wounded. All the troops have rivalled each other in intrepidity. The field of battle has offered to the view of 200,000 persons, who can attest it, the sight of one French corpse laying upon the dead bodies of seven or eight Russians, mean while the Russians were protected by the musketry fire from their trenches during a part of the days of the 16th and 17th.

On the 18th, we established the bridges over the Borysthenes which the enemy had burnt, but did not succeed in quenching the fire which consumed the town until the 18th. The houses in the city were filled with Russians, dead and dying.

Of twelve divisions which composed the Grand Russian Army, two divisions have been broken and defeated in the combats of Ostrowna; two have met with the same fate in the battle of Mohilow; and six in the battle of Smolensko. They have only two divisions of the Guards which remain entire.

The deeds of bravery, which reflect honour on the army, and which have distinguished such numbers of soldiers in the battle of Smolensko, shall be the subject of a particular report. Never has the French army shewn greater intrepidity than in this campaign.

## FOURTEENTH BULLETIN OF THE GRAND ARMY.

*Smolensko, Aug. 23.*

Smolensko may be considered as one of the finest cities of Russia. Had it not been for the circumstances of the war, which has carried thither fire, and consumed immense magazines of colonial merchandize and goods of all kinds, this city would have been a grand resource for the army. Even in its present state it may be of the greatest utility in point of a military view. There are still large houses remaining, which offer fine places for the establishment of hospitals. The province of Smolensko is very fine and very fertile, and furnished with great resources for subsistence and forage. The Russians intended, according to the events of the war, to raise a Militia of Peasant Slaves, whom they have armed with bad pikes. They had already united about 5000 of them at this place; it was an object of raillery and derision even to the Russian army itself.—They had already stated, as the Order of the Day, that Smolensko was to be the grave of the French, and that although it had been deemed convenient to evacuate Poland, yet it was necessary to give battle at Smolensko, to prevent this barrier of Russia from falling into our hands.—The Cathedral of Smolensko is one of the most celebrated Grecian Churches in all Russia. The Episcopal Palace forms a kind of town by itself. The heat is excessive, the thermometer having risen to 26 degrees: the weather is much hotter here than in Italy.

### BATTLE OF POLOTSK.

After the battle of Drissa, the Duke of Reggio, knowing that Gen. Wittgenstein had been reinforced by twelve third battalions from the garrison of Dunaburg, and willing to draw him to an engagement near the defile below Polotsk, caused the 2d and 6th corps to be arranged in order of battle below Polotsk. Gen. Wittgenstein followed him, attacked him on the 16th and 17th, and was vigorously repulsed. The Bavarian division of De Wrede, of the 6th corps, has distinguished itself. At the moment when the Duke of Reggio was making his dispositions to profit by the victory, and to close the enemy in the defile, he was struck on the shoulder by a Biscayen. His wound, which is of a serious nature, obliged him to cause himself to be transported to Wilna, but it did not appear that he made himself in anywise unquiet concerning the consequences. The General Gouvion Saint Cyr has taken the command of the 2d and 6th corps. On the 17th, in the evening, the enemy retired through the defile. Gen. Verdier was wounded. Gen. Maison has been recognized as General of Division, and has succeeded him in the command of his division. Our loss is estimated at 1000 men killed and wounded. The loss of the Russians is triple to ours. We have taken 500 prisoners from them. On the 18th at four o'clock in the afternoon, Gen. Gouvion Saint Cyr, commanding the 2d and 6th corps, opened on the enemy, by causing his right wing to be attacked by the Bavarian division of Comte De Wrede. The battle extended the whole length of the enemy's line, and the enemy were thrown into complete rout, and pursued for two leagues, as long as day-light permitted. Twenty pieces of cannon and 1000 prisoners have remained in the power of the French army. The Bavarian Gen. Deroy was wounded.

### BATTLE OF VALENTINA.

On the 19th, at break of day, the bridge being finished, the Marshal Duke of Elchingen crossed over to the right bank of the Borysthenes, and pursued the enemy. At one league from the town he encountered the last column of the enemy's rear-guard. It was a division of 5 or 6000 men, stationed on fine heights. He caused them to be attacked with the bayonet, by the 4th regiment of infantry of the line, and by the 72d ditto. The position was carried, and our bayonets covered the field of battle with dead: 3 or 400 prisoners fell into our hands. The flying enemy retired on the second column, which was posted on the heights of Valentina. The first position was carried by the 19th of the line; and towards four o'clock in the afternoon, the musketry fire was kept up against the whole of the enemy's rear-guard, which presented about 15,000 men. The Duke of Abrantes had passed the Borysthenes at two o'clock to the right of Smolensko, and he found himself close upon the rear of the enemy; he might, therefore, by marching with his division, have intercepted the great road to Moscow, and render the retreat of the rear-guard difficult: but mean time, the other columns of the enemy's army which remained to be forced, being informed of the success and of the rapidity of the first attack, returned back by the way they came. Four divisions then advanced to support their rear-guard, and among others the divisions of grenadiers, which, until now, had not come forward, 5 or 6000 men, cavalry, formed their right, whilst their left

was covered by woods, filled with tirailleurs. It was of the greatest consequence to the enemy to keep this position as long as possible, it being a very fine one, and apparently impregnable; on our part we attached no less importance to it. Thus arose the battle of Valentina, one of the finest feats of arms in our military history. At six o'clock in the evening, the division of Gudin, which had been sent forward to support the third corps, from the moment when we perceived the great succours that the enemy had sent to his rear-guard, pushed forward a column on the centre of the enemy's position, supported by the division of Gen. Ledru. After an hour's combat our troops forced the position. Gen. Count Gudin arriving with his division, was, at the commencement of the action, struck by a bullet, which carried off his thigh; he died gloriously. This loss was sensibly felt. Gen. Gudin was one of the most distinguished officers in the army; he was estimable for his moral qualities, as much as for his bravery and intrepidity. Gen. Gerard has taken the command of the division. We reckon that the enemy have had eight Generals killed or wounded; one of their Generals is taken prisoner. On the following day, the Emperor distributed recompences on the field of battle to all the regiments which had distinguished themselves, and as the 127th, which is a new regiment, had behaved itself well, his Majesty granted this regiment the right of carrying an eagle, a privilege it had not before enjoyed, never having until this time been present in any battle. These recompences, given on the field of battle in the midst of the dead, the dying, the wounded, and the trophies of victory, afforded a spectacle truly military and imposing. The enemy, after this battle, has precipitated his retreat in such a manner, that on the day of the 26th our troops marched 20 leagues without being able to find the Cossacks, and every where picking up the wounded and the stragglers.—Our loss in the battle of Valentina has been 6000 killed, and 2600 wounded. That of the enemy, as the field of battle shews, is triple. We have taken a thousand prisoners, mostly wounded. Thus the only two Russian divisions which had not suffered by the preceding combats of Mohilow, of Ostrovno, of Krasnoi, and of Smolensko, have now done it by the battle of Valentina. All the intelligence received, confirms the account of the enemy running full drive for Moscow, and that his army had suffered much in the preceding engagements, and besides this experiences a great desertion. The Poles say to them when deserting, you have abandoned us without fighting, what right then can you have to expect from us to remain under your colours? The Russian soldiers of the provinces of Mohilow and of Smolensko likewise take advantage of the proximity of their villages to desert, and return to repose themselves in their own countries. The division of Gudin attacked with so much intrepidity, that the enemy was persuaded it was the Imperial Guards. This is in one word to pronounce the finest eulogy on the 7th regiment of light infantry, and on the 12th, 21st, and 127th of the line, who composed this division. The combat of Valentina may likewise be called a battle, as more than 80,000 men were engaged. It was at least an affair of the van-guard of the first rank. Gen. Grouchy, who was sent with his corps on the route to Dunkovichina, found all the villages filled with dead and wounded, and has taken three carriages, containing 900 wounded. The Cossacks have surprised at Leozno an hospital of 200 sick Wirtemburgh troops, which, through negligence, had not been forwarded to Witepsk. For the rest, in the midst of all these disasters, the Russians never cease to chaunt *Te Deum*:—they convert every thing into a victory;—but in spite of the ignorance and brutality of these people, this begins to appear ridiculous to them, and even too gross.

REPORT OF THE MAJOR-GENERAL.

MONSEIGNEUR,—I suppose that the Duke of Reggio will have rendered your Highness an account of the day of the 17th, or at least up to the moment when his wounds forced him to quit the field of battle; during the remainder of that day, the [illegible] their successes, and at nine in the evening, the [illegible] at every point, after having suffered the [illegible], having attempted, in the course of the [illegible], which were repulsed with a bravery [illegible] which brought them thither. This affair reflects the highest honour on the division of Le Grand, which was placed at the branching of the roads to Jebei and to Nevil; and on the Bavarian corps, placed on the left bank of the Polota, in the rear of the village of Spas, which the enemy was determined to retake, notwithstanding his having been driven out of it five or six times; and the 20th division, as also General De Wrede, who commanded it, have covered themselves with glory. The Bavarian Gen. Vincenti, who is entitled to praise for the manner in which he conducted himself, was there wounded. In the evening of that day, I felt the necessity of attacking the enemy. I took my measures for making the attack on the 18th, at four o'clock in the afternoon. I have performed impossibilities to deceive the enemy concerning my intentions. Towards one o'clock I caused the equipage of the army, which were in the rear of Polotsk, to file off on the left bank of the Dwina, on the road to Oula. I made an appearance as if I would cause this movement to be covered and protected by the troops which Marshal the Duke of Reggio had caused to repass on the left bank. In the night between the 16th and the 17th, they reunited behind Polotsk, at the rear of the equipages, the division of cuirassiers arrived there from Semeneta, and the brigade of light cavalry of Gen. Castex, from Roudina. At three in the afternoon the column and baggage had filed in sight of the enemy, and the troops abovementioned repassed the Dwina with the greatest part of the French artillery, and entered Polotsk. About five o'clock all the troops and artillery were in a position to debouche upon the enemy without their even having observed our preparations.—At five precisely, all the artillery opened its fire, and our columns of infantry debouched under its protection to attack the enemy's left and centre. Wrede's division debouched to the right of the village of Spas, and attacked with great bravery and skill the enemy's left; Gen. Deroy's division debouched by the same village of Spas; Le Grand's division on the left of that village, connecting itself by its left to Verdier's division, a brigade of which observed the enemy's right, which was placed upon the road of Gehinzeleva. Merle's division covered the front of Polotsk, and part of it's rear. The enemy, though completely surprised, quite confident in their superior force and immense artillery, composed of 180 pieces, at first received our attack with infinite calmness and *sang froid*; but in the end, before night, their left was completely forced, and their centre totally routed; after having defended their position with much bravery and great slaughter. We should have made a very great number of prisoners, if the woods had not been so near their position. The enemy abandoned to us the field of battle, covered with an immense number of their killed, 20 pieces of cannon and 1000 prisoners. On our side we have had some killed and wounded—among the latter are Generals Deroy and Raclovitsch, and Colonel Colonge, commanding the Bavarian artillery. I cannot sufficiently eulogize Legrand, Wrede, Deroy, Raclovitsch, and the General of Artillery Aubry, who directed the artillery of the 2d corps with great distinction. Gen. Merle, with only a part of his division, repulsed with great skill an attack which the enemy made on our left, to protect their retreat to the wood. The Croats distinguished themselves in this charge, supported by a part of Gen. Castex's cavalry. In general I demand the consideration of his Majesty; the troops have merited consideration and rewards. His Majesty will give me great pleasure by dispensing his favour on M. de Maillie, my Aide-de-Camp, the bearer of this letter, whose zeal I have every reason for praising. I have also nothing but eulogiums to bestow upon the Chiefs of the 2d and 6th corps.—I have the honour to be, &c.

Count GAUVION SAINT CYR.

## NORTH AMERICA.

Extract of a letter, dated Huron, July 17, 1812:—"On Monday, the 6th July, General Hull arrived with his army at Detroit. Saturday night the 11th July he crossed over to Sandwich, on the Canada shore, sixteen miles above Malden, with 2000 men, and took possession of it without

bloodshed, at which place he was by the last advices fortifying. The British have collected all their forces at Malden, where, it appears, they are determined to make a stand. They have 250 regular troops, 702 militia, and about 400 Indians."

BY WILLIAM HULL, BRIGADIER-GENERAL AND COMMANDER-IN CHIEF OF THE NORTH WESTERN ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES:

## A PROCLAMATION.

"INHABITANTS OF CANADA!—After thirty years of peace and prosperity, the United States have been driven to arms. The injuries and aggressions, the insults and indignities of Great Britain, have once more left them no alternative but manly resistance or unconditional submission.—The army under my command has invaded your Country, and the standard of Union now waves over the territory of Canada. To the peaceable, unoffending inhabitants, it brings neither danger nor difficulty. I come to find enemies, not to make them. I come to protect not to injure them. Separated by an immense ocean and an extensive wilderness from Great Britain, you have no participation in her councils, no interest in her conduct; you have felt her tyranny, you have seen her injustice; but I do not ask you to avenge the one or redress the other. The United States are sufficiently powerful to afford every security consistent with their rights and your expectations. I tender you the invaluable blessings of civil, political, and religious liberty, and their necessary result, individual and political prosperity—the liberty which gave decision to our councils, and energy to our conduct, in a struggle for independence, and which conducted us safely and triumphantly through the stormy period of the Revolution—that liberty which has raised us to an elevated rank among the nations of the world; and which afforded us a greater measure of peace and security, of wealth and improvement, than ever fell to the lot of any country. In the name of my country, and by the authority of Government, I promise you protection to your persons, property, and rights. Remain at your homes—pursue your peaceful and customary avocations—raise not your hands against your brethren. Many of your fathers fought for the freedom and independence we now enjoy. Being children, therefore, of the same family with us, and heirs to the same heritage, the arrival of an army of friends must be hailed by you with a cordial welcome. You will be emancipated from tyranny and oppression, and restored to the dignified station of free men. Had I any doubt of eventual success, I might ask your assistance, but I do not. I come prepared for every contingency—I have a force which will look down all opposition, and that force is but the vanguard of a much greater. If, contrary to your own interests and the just expectation of my country, you should take part in the approaching contest, you will be considered and treated as enemies, and the horrors and calamities of war will stalk before you. *If the barbarous and savage policy of Great Britain be pursued, and the Savages let loose to murder our citizens and butcher our women and children, this war will be a war of extermination. The first stroke of the tomahawk, the first attempt with the scalping knife, will be the signal of one indiscriminate scene of desolation.* No white man found fighting by the side of an Indian will be taken prisoner; instant destruction will be his lot. If the dictates of reason, duty, justice and humanity, cannot prevent the employment of a force which respects no rights, and knows no wrong, it will be prevented by a severe and relentless system of retaliation. I doubt not your courage and firmness—I will not doubt your attachment to liberty. If you tender your services voluntarily, they will be accepted readily. The United States offer you peace, liberty, and security—your choice lies between these and war, slavery and destruction. Choose, then, but choose wisely, and may He who knows the justice of our cause, and who holds in his hand the fate of nations, guide you to a result the most compatible with your rights and interests, your peace and happiness.

*Head-quarters, Sandwich, July* 12, 1812."

## *PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.*

### MANCHESTER MEETING FOR PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

On Wednesday week, the Friends of Parliamentary Reform, in Manchester, dined at the Spread Eagle, THOMAS KERSHAW, Esq. in the Chair. The Meeting was honoured with the presence of that long-revered and venerable patriot—that genuine friend to the constitutional liberties of his country—Major Cartwright. After the cloth was removed, the following toasts were given;—

"The King, the Peers, and the People, and may Prerogative, Privilege, and Freedom, be equally held sacred and inviolate."

"The Prince Regent, and may he ever keep in mind the declaration of the Prince of Wales—'That Government is a Trust held for the Benefit of the People."

"Duly proportioned Representation, co-extensive with direct Taxation, and in Parliaments of a duration not exceeding One Year."

"May the thirty-eight Petitioners for Peace and Parliamentary Reform live to enjoy the Blessings for which they have manfully contended, and for which they have severely suffered," (with three times three.)

"May there always be 'an insufficiency of evidence' to convict the innocent." (*Great applause.*)

"The Society entitled 'The Union for Parliamentary Reform according to the Constitution,' and may its Appeal to the Nation have its proper influence on the Heart of every Englishman."

"May 'Petitions of Right,' from injured Millions soon insure to their Country Justice, Liberty, and Peace."

The CHAIRMAN. "I have the pleasure of proposing the health of a Gentleman, who has for half a century distinguished himself in the cause of Liberty, Peace, and Reform. He has grown grey in the service of his country. His name will be revered as long as constitutional freedom shall be deemed estimable in the hearts of Britons—(*Applause*).—Gentlemen, you anticipate my intentions—I give you the name of "Major Cartwright."—(*Three times three and thunders of applause, which continued several minutes.*)

When it had subsided, the venerable Patriot rose and expressed his acknowledgments to the Chairman for proposing his health, and to the Gentlemen present, for the very flattering manner in which they had noticed him. He was not at all conscious of meriting such a testimony of regard, for it was the duty of every Englishman to exert the means he possessed to promote the great object of Parliamentary Reform, and he had done no more than his duty—(*Applause*)—As he was a stranger in the town, he begged leave to explain how it happened that he was at the meeting. Thirty-eight persons, assembled, in a constitutional manner, with the laudable view of petitioning for a redress of grievances, were apprehended, not merely by the civil power, but by a military force (which is a new mode of executing the law), and hurried to a gaol; from which they were committed, on the oath (as he had been informed) of a *hired* witness, to Lancaster Castle:—the circumstances of the case, as he heard them, gave rise to suspicion in his mind that it might be the intention of those concerned in the transaction, to revive the system of restraint on the expression of public opinion, introduced by an Apostate from Reform, now no more. (*Applause.*) They have remained in prison about three months: but protected by the favour of Providence and the integrity of a Jury, they have escaped the danger and destruction with which they were threatened. (*Great applause.*) The whole of the affair excited in him so irresistible an interest, that, anticipating their acquittal from a conviction of their innocence, he came down that he might congratulate them on their arrival here.—"Thank God!" said he, "my anticipation of their innocence has proved correct. They are freed from the charge. They have obtained a victory infinitely more triumphant than a thousand victories gained by a despotic *ally* over a despotic *enemy*!"—(*bursts of applause.*) He hoped and trusted this victory would have

the effect of animating the friends of constitutional freedom to perseverance in the cause of Reform, till the number of petitions for that object required a stage waggon to convey them to the door of the House of Commons. (*Applause.*) In the purification of that House is the whole secret of our deliverance; it will free our country from the horrible evils that afflict it. (*Applause.*) This theme necessarily led him to advert to the UNION SOCIETY, lately established in London, the object of which is to uphold and make known the principles of the Constitution, and to procure, by all proper means, an union, throughout the kingdom, of all the friends to political liberty. In alluding to the Administration of the Government in this country, the disastrous proceedings and undeviating misrule of which, he said, we were accustomed to consider as originating in a disregard for the people, in folly and in insanity, he referred to a work written on Political Economy by Sir James Stuart, and compared the measures of Government with those principles recommended by that author, as essential to destroy the liberties of a free nation. (*He sat down amidst great and unbounded applause.*)

"The 'Hampden Club,' and may its patriotic call draw forth Hampdens, honest, wise, and brave, from every county and every corner of the kingdom."

"The speedy putting down of the Borough Faction, that Englishmen may once more hold a Property on their own Estates; and have real Representatives for securing an honourable and permanent Peace, of which a Faction that thrives by War must ever be the enemy."

"Representation without Rotton Boroughs; Defence without Foreign Soldiers; Law without a Military Execution of it; and Trial by Jury without hired Spies and Informers."—(*Three times three, and great applause.*)

"Sir Francis Burdett, and the Electors of Westminster, whose example, if universally imitated, would soon insure a Reform of Parliament."

"Commerce, the social link of Nations; and may we ever keep in mind, that as national Freedom was the cause of our once flourishing Commerce, so if that Cause be destroyed, the Effect must disappear, to make way for Slavery, with decay and ruin, vice and desperation, in its train."

"H. Brougham, Esq. in whom are united the able Advocate and the enlightened Statesman, and may he long live to enjoy the gratitude of his country."—(*Three times three, and great applause.*)

Mr. WEIGHT said, the manner in which the health of Mr. Brougham had been received, gave him great pleasure. It was a tribute of gratitude and esteem to a man, to whose excellence of character the concurring approbation of a whole country bore honourable testimony. (*Applause.*) His qualifications were an ornament to private and to professional life. As a man, he was exemplary from the correct morality of his conduct; as an advocate and as a senator, he stood conspicuous for his profound and various knowledge, his zeal, his independence, his dignity, and his honour. (*Applause.*) He had witnessed his exertions in effecting a Repeal of the hated Orders in Council. (*Applause.*) He had seen with what unmitigated earnestness and unceasing effort he had laboured to serve his country on that memorable occasion. The effect, he trusted, would be commensurate with the toil of the Statesman, and the wishes of the People.—(*Applause.*)—His expectations and his hopes induced him to consider that the circumstances which took place on the discussion of the Orders in Council, would have an extensive influence in furthering the best interests of his beloved country—to insure which, union, moderation, and prudence, are the best means. Appearing here in the hope of meeting Mr. Brougham, I feel deep regret at his absence, in which you will all participate; but I hope, at some future period, we shall have this pleasure.—(*Applause.*)

"May the Arms of England ever be victorious in the cause of Liberty."

"The Rev. Mr. Wyville."—(*Three times three, and great applause.*)

"The Liberty of the Press; it is like the air in which we live, if we have it not, we die."

"The Constitution, the whole Constitution, and nothing but the Constitution."

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## PUBLIC DINNER TO MR. BROUGHAM.

A grand dinner was given at Liverpool on Friday week, at the Liverpool Arms, to H. Brougham, Esq. M. P. in acknowledgement for his unwearied attention to the interests of the country in general, and particularly for his successful exertions in promoting the repeal of the Orders in Council. At half past five o'clock, nearly 250 persons sat down to dinner. Among the company were the Earls of Derby and Sefton, Lord Stanley, the Hon. Mr. Bennet, Major Cartwright, &c.—Wm. ROSCOE, Esq. was in the Chair.—After the cloth was drawn, the following toasts were given:—

"The King."—"The Prince Regent."—"The Constitution of these Realms, as established in King, Lords, and Commons."—"The Queen and Royal Family."—"The Prince of the Blood, who has evinced himself the enlightened Friend of Catholic Emancipation, the Duke of Sussex."—"Another Prince of the Blood, who has always shewn himself a Friend to the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, the Duke of Gloucester."—"The Army and Navy."—"The Lancashire Witches."—"Conciliation with Neutrals, and Peace with our Enemies."

Mr. ROSCOE entreated the attention of the company to a few remarks which he was about to make on the more immediate occasion of the meeting. In speaking of the splendid exertions of Mr. Brougham and their successful issue, it would have been a great happiness if he had on this occasion been able to announce their ultimate success in the conciliation with America. Though it was, however, nearly impossible that this happy result could yet be known, yet he had the most confident expectation that the conciliatory measures which had lately been adopted could hardly fail of producing the desired effect. Two nations so connected by the ties of blood, of interest, of manners, and of feeling, could not long continue in a state of warfare, when the chief obstacles to pacification were once removed. But the ultimate decision, whatever it might be, respecting war or peace with America, could make no difference as to the merits of Mr. Brougham. Whatever could be effected by the most consummate talents, genius, energy and industry, he had accomplished. Whatever was in the power of one man to perform, he had performed. Actions are in our own power, but their consequences are in the hands of Providence. A Wellington may gain a brilliant victory, but it depends upon the universal Spanish nation whether that victory shall be effectual to the liberation of their country. The two cases are more similar than they may at first appear. The warrior who fights for the attainment of peace, and the statesman who labours to prevent a war, are equally entitled to the thanks of their country. "But if, after all," continued Mr. Roscoe, "the efforts of my Hon. Friend should not produce all the blessings which might have been expected from them, to whom is the blame to be imputed? To those who, though they could not prevent, yet were competent to retard, the triumph which he at length obtained in the Parliament of the country. The pernicious difficulties and delays which his opponents interposed, will be the sole cause of all the mischiefs which may hereafter happen, if our conciliatory measures should unhappily have been adopted too late. But I confess that my hopes are turned to a different result. The wise and conciliating policy, which I have no scruple to say has now been adopted by Ministers, will, I confidently hope, produce the happiest effect. When I look round on the present most respectable company, assembled from different parts of the kingdom on this memorable occasion, I confess I anticipate a signal advantage from this Meeting, exclusive of its more immediate object. It can hardly fail to promote that consent of opinion, and unity of feeling, by which alone all great national objects can ultimately be obtained. We have now seen that a good cause may certainly be obtained by firm and temperate perseverance. The spirit which has abolished the Orders in Council, may, it is hoped, be equally successful in accomplishing that still more important object—a General Peace. To that we must at last look as the

genuine remedy for all our grievances, and it is hoped the nation will soon be roused to exert itself for the attainment of this blessing. We have formerly, Sir, said he, addressing Mr. Brougham, addressed to you our thanks in a moment of seriousness; we now offer you our thanks in a season of conviviality, and we hope, on a *future occasion*, to have an opportunity of thanking you *in a manner more suited to your deserts.*

Mr. Brougham's health was drunk with three times three, amidst the loudest applauses.

Mr. BROUGHAM addressed the company in a speech, of which the following is a very brief and imperfect abstract:—"I feel, Gentlemen, so utterly confounded and overcome by the lively expressions of approbation with which the mention of my name has been accompanied,—that, being entirely unable to answer you as I ought, I can only intreat you to pardon an incapacity which yourselves have created. If my life should be protracted beyond the ordinary period of human existence, the recollection of this unexampled honour will be the last feeling of my heart, even if I should survive all other recollections. But in this case, I can lay claim to no other honour than merely that of furnishing an occasion for this most respectable meeting. To yourselves, alone, Gentlemen, you owe your victory. I may have been the organ of your sentiments, and the channel of your exertions, but I should be equally arrogant and unjust to claim any other merit. The victory which we and the country have gained, is to be ascribed to you, Gentlemen of Liverpool, who began the battle, and to Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield, Staffordshire, and the other great manufacturing and commercial places, who supported you in the contest. It is indeed the victory of truth, justice, and sound policy, over fraud, falsehood, and error. But whether this stain of the national honour and disgrace of the British name has been abandoned from a sense of its wickedness, or a fear of its consequences; whether it has perished by the hand of justice, or died by a natural decay, it is at length defunct, and not all the demons of mischief, assisted by conjurors far greater even than our present Ministers, can ever restore it to life! The mischief which has already arisen, and which may hereafter arise, would not have happened, if the warning voice of this town had been attended to in 1808, when that eminent merchant and excellent man, who struck me at that time as one of the most virtuous, honourable, and revered persons I had ever met with (I need scarcely mention the name of W. Rathbone), was sent to London on this great business. It would not even have happened, if the motion which I had the honour of making in the House of Commons in March last, had fortunately been carried. On their heads then, who frustrated all these exertions, let the mischief rest; and on their heads, too, be all the consequences of the desperate means to which we have been driven for the accomplishment of our object, in the disclosure of that frightful body of evidence which has now been sent forth to terrify mankind. It is not our fault that this dreadful scene of crime and suffering has been promulgated to the world, and it is not our fault that Ministers must now negotiate with America with this millstone round their necks. When the danger is once over, I confess I shall not be sorry, if the mischief be not too great, that matters have been carried so far. Both countries will have purchased very valuable experience at a cheap rate. America will be taught, even by this short trial, that war is not a thing which is to be taken up and laid down as a matter of small concern.—Short and little as their portion has been of that bitter cup, they already know so much of its taste as will not soon be forgotten. For ourselves, who by a strange infatuation never could be brought to believe that America would go to war, we shall learn perhaps that she possesses talents of doing mischief, such as would not disgrace the oldest potentate in Europe. I must, however, again express a hope, that this unnatural contest cannot last long. Should even the American Legislature be averse from peace, we may hope that the people there may obtain over their Government the same species of victory which you have gained over yours.—I *assent most cordially* to the opinion of my valued friend, that after all, a General Peace is that grand remedy for all our misfortunes, without which all others must be finally ineffectual. I hope most earnestly that the late glorious victory at Salamanca will contribute to this end. I rejoice the more in that victory, because of all the battles we have yet gained in the Peninsula, it is the only one which is clearly *indisputable.* No one can now doubt that we are able to beat the French, when we have any thing like an equality of numbers. We are now able to accept or even to offer a proposal for negociation, without the chance of suspicion that we are driven to it by fear. We can afford to abandon unjust pretensions, whether profitable or the contrary, when we have shewn to all the world that we are competent to support our just rights against the most powerful opposition."

The Chairman next proposed the health of the Earl of Derby, which was drunk with loud applauses.

His Lordship expressed his high sense of the honour which had been conferred on him. It had not been in his power to contribute any very effectual aid to the great object which had produced the present meeting; but he would boldly assert, that it had been the great object of his life to promote the welfare of this county in particular, and of the nation in general, with all the powers which God had bestowed on him. The eloquent speeches of the two Gentlemen who had already spoken, had anticipated all he had to say respecting the Orders in Council, the repeal of which had been prosecuted in the House of Commons by Mr. Brougham, with a degree of ability almost unparalleled in the annals of Parliament. His Lordship declared himself most willing to forward any petition which the people of Liverpool might do him the honour to commit to his charge. —He had advised them, however, to address their petitions rather to Parliament than to the Prince Regent, in consequence of the difficulties which petitions to the latter were apt to experience in their passage through the Secretary of State's office. He concluded by proposing the health of his worthy friend, and the constant friend of Liverpool, Mr. Roscoe; which was drunk with three times three, amidst the loudest acclamations.

Mr. ROSCOE, in returning thanks, alluded to the time of his election as Member for this Borough, which he considered as the most distinguished period of his life. It had given him an opportunity of taking a share in some most important public acts, and particularly in that most signal measure—the Abolition of the Slave Trade. The time, he observed, would in all probability soon arrive, when the freemen of Liverpool would again be called on to exercise the right of election, and if they were anxious for the cause of general Reform, it behoved them to be careful on whom their choice should fall. It was of little use to have one Member who would pursue, unbiassed, the genuine interests of his country, if his efforts were neutralized by another who would always be subservient to Court policy. A body of 3,000 Electors could surely find two men who could act together in the cause of peace and freedom. "I am sufficiently convinced," added Mr. R. "that you will not be ungrateful to my friend (Mr. Brougham), from whom you have received such signal benefits; but I could wish also to name another friend, whose general ability, and particular knowledge on a most important subject, the East India Trade, are well known to you all—I mean Mr. Creevey."

The Chairman next proposed the healths of the Earl of Sefton and Lord Stanley, which were drunk with three times. Both these Noblemen returned thanks.

Mr. Creevey's health was proposed, and drunk with three times three.

Toast—"Hon. Mr. Bennett," who returned thanks in a neat speech.

Toast—"The healths of the Delegates from the different Manufacturing Towns," &c.—Mr. SHAKESPEARE PHILLIPS, of Manchester, returned thanks in their behalf.

A great number of excellent songs, glees, &c. were sung, and the meeting was conducted with the greatest order, spirit, and conviviality.

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Saturday se'nnight, Mrs. Woodcoe, of Norwich, whilst taking a walk in the neighbouring fields, for the purpose of gleaning a few ears of wheat, unfortunately happened to find a large quantity of poisonous fungi, which, mistaking for mush-

rooms, she brought home, and stewed them for her own and husband's supper. They partook heartily of them, and felt no inconvenience until the middle of next day, when they were seized with excruciating pains, which continued with encreasing violence until Monday, when, in spite of all medical assistance, they both died, uttering piercing lamentations. Seldom a season passes but some persons fall victims to this rage for eating the unknown productions of the field.

On the morning of the 27th of August, fourteen men, belonging to Conway, went out in a small boat to finish the loading of a flat lying near Ormshead, bound with pavement flags for Liverpool. After having accomplished their work, they left the vessel about ten at night, and began to row towards Conway: in a short while their cries were heard as if in great danger, but the vessel being a ground, no assistance could be rendered to them. The cries of distress continued until one loud yell was uttered, after which there were universal silence. Next morning the boat was found, full of water, and drifted up the river. Seven hats, two jackets, and a waistcoat, were found on the water's edge; but none of the bodies have been washed ashore. Conway is filled with lamentation. Ten of the men have left large families. Eleven widows were unfortunately made, and thirty five children left fatherless. Subscriptions for their relief have been set on foot, and the people touched with their sufferings, have been extremely liberal.—*North Wales Gazette.*

## *TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

*Downing-street, September* 7, 1812.

A Dispatch of which the following is an Extract, has been this day received at Earl Bathurst's Office, addressed to his Lordship by Major-Gen. Cooke, dated Cadiz, August 16, 1812.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that I have just received accounts from Col. Skerrett, dated at Huelva on the 14th; the allied troops landed there on the 12th. The enemy blew up the castle of Niebla, and spiked the guns on that night and retired; the place is now occupied by Spanish troops.

*War-Office, September* 8, 1812.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased to appoint Colonel his Serene Highness William Frederick Henry, Hereditary Prince of Orange, to be an Aid-de-Camp to his Royal Highness.

### BANKRUPTS.

F. L. Hodshon, Strood, Kent, brewer.
N. Fairless, South Shields, ship-builder.
T. Watson, Ipswich, miller.
W. Bagster, Gosport, victualler.
A. Veysey, Exeter, haberdasher.
G. Gregory, sen. Chester, cheese-factor.
T. Brothers, White Rose-court, Coleman-street, woolen-draper.

## *LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY,*

THURSDAY, SEPT. 4.

*Downing-street, September* 10, 1812.

Major D'Oyly, Aid-de-Camp to Major-Gen. Cooke, has this morning arrived with dispatches addressed to the Earl Bathurst by Major-Gen. Cooke, dated Cadiz, August 26, of which the following are a copy and an extract:—

*Cadiz, August* 26, 1812.

MY LORD—I beg leave to refer your Lordship to the enclosed copy of a letter to General the Earl of Wellington, reporting that the enemy abandoned his positions opposite to this place and the Isla de Leon, on the night of the 24th and morning of the 25th. My Aid-de-Camp, Major D'Oyly, will have the honour to deliver this satisfactory intelligence.—I have the honour to be, &c. GEORGE COOKE, Major-Gen.

*Cadiz, August* 26, 1812.

"MY LORD—I have the pleasure to inform your Lordship, that the enemy abandoned his positions and works opposite to Cadiz and the Island on the night of the 24th and morning of the 25th, except the town of Port Santa Maria, where a body of troops remained till the middle of the day, and then withdrew to the Cartuga. He has left a very numerous artillery in the several works, and a large quantity of stores and powder: and although most of the ordnance has been rendered useless, he appears to have retired from his position with more precipitation than I should have expected. A considerable body of cavalry was brought down previous to the retreat commencing. The towns of Puerto Real and Chiclana are now occupied by detachments of Spanish troops, and a party from the 2d Hanoverian hussars is at the first mentioned place, to which Colonel Lambert had moved from the Portazzo with them, and some light troops from this division.—I have the honour to be, &c.

*The Earl of Wellington, &c. &c.* GEORGE COOKE.

(EXTRACT.)

I take this opportunity of informing your Lordship, that Colonel Skerrett and the Spanish troops under General Cruz, were at Manzanilla on the 22d, where they remained to draw the attention of Marshal Soult. I beg to state to your Lordship, that the Regency has given orders to commence a cut across the Trocadero, immediately, by a considerable number of workmen, so as to insulate it.

## *SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

*Downing-street, Sept.* 12, 1812.

Letters, of which the following are extracts, have been received by Earl Bathurst from Colonel Sir Howard Douglas, dated Castrorontrigo, 22d, and Astorga, 29th August:—

*Castrorontrigo, August* 22, 1812.

When the Earl of Wellington transferred his head-quarters from Mojados to Cuellar, the Gallician divisions, then occupying La Nava and Pollos, crossed the Douro again, and General Santocildes established his head-quarters in Valladolid. On the 7th instant Tordesillas capitulated, and the siege of Toro was undertaken, but with means very inefficient.

On the 12th the enemy advanced, with about 7,000 infantry and 1,500 cavalry, from Palencia towards Valladolid, which was only occupied by one battalion. General Santocildes retired, taking the road by Torrelobaton towards Villalpando. The enemy now advanced towards Toro; and it was ascertained that their objects were to relieve Toro and Zamora, and then to march to Astorga, to raise the siege, and, having withdrawn the garrison, to destroy the works.

The Spanish troops were withdrawn from before Toro, which the enemy immediately abandoned; and General Santocildes, having collected all his force at Belver, on the Rio Seco, commenced his retreat on Benevente, near which place the enemy's cavalry came up with that of the 6th army (about 400), and in the affair which followed we sustained some loss.

On the 19th instant Astorga surrendered, when the enemy had already reached La Baneza, from which place they have since retired, on hearing of the loss of that garrison, which was of such importance as to lead them into these operations. I have no doubt, from the direction they have taken, that they will now withdraw the garrison of Zamora, and entirely abandon the line of the Douro.

Astorga was commanded by a General of Brigade, was defended by a Lieutenant-colonel of engineers, and the garrison was composed of two battalions of the 23d and one of the 1st infantry of the line—in all 1200 effectives at the time of the surrender.

*Astorga, Aug.* 29, 1812.

The enemy retired from La Baneza on hearing of the fall of Astorga, and took the direction of Zamora; they evacuated the latter place on the morning of the 27th, retiring by Toro towards Valladolid.—The Gallician army has again moved forward, and now occupies cantonments on the Esla, in the towns and villages near Villamanan.

[Here follow extracts of letters from Lieut.-Col. Carrol, dated Zornona, Aug. 24, and off Portugalette, Aug. 26.—They state that Gen. Rouget, with nearly 6,000 men, had advanced from Durango, to the attack of Bilboa. Gens. Reno-

vales and Porlier upon this, on the 14th, attacked the French army, and drove them towards Zornoza.—On the 21st, the enemy again advanced; and on the 22d, Gen. Mendizabal stopped their progress at the bridge of Bouletta, where they suffered considerably. Night came on, when the French retreated. They were followed by the Spaniards, overtaken, and put to the route, and took refuge at Durango.]

*On board his Majesty's ship Venerable, off Portugallete, Aug. 26, 1812.*

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that we have just received information that Caffarelli, who is much exasperated at the failure and defeat of Rouget, has marched a force of from two thousand five hundred to three thousand men to Durango, to reinforce Rouget, and that they purpose making another attack upon Bilboa. I am returning to join General Mendizabal.—The troops are in the highest spirits.

## BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

J. Day, Luton, Bedford, taylor, from Sept. 26 to October 10.
T. Woodhouse, Lower Shadwell, butcher, from the 15th inst. to the 19th inst.

## BANKRUPTS.

J. Hawkins, Radipole, Dorset, brewer.
H. Hyde. jun. Tunstead, York, merchant.
A. Pickering, Wrockwardine, Salop, shopkeeper.
T. Stewart, North Shields, ship-owner.
F. L. Hodshon, and W. Ring, jun. Strood, common-brewers.
J. Simpson, Caldbeck, Cumberland, paper-manufacturer.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY,
3 per Cons. Consols....59$\frac{3}{4}\frac{1}{8}$ | Omnium.....$7\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{4}$ prem.

LUCIUS to Lord LIVERPOOL,—the HISTORY OF THE LUDDITES,—the first part of DRAMATIC EMANCIPATION,—and other Communications, next week.

Mr. C., of Richmond, shall be supplied as soon as possible.

THE EXAMINER.

*LONDON, SEPT. 13.*

LORD WELLINGTON'S victory at Salamanca, and his subsequent occupation of Madrid, have evidently caused a great sensation among the French in Spain, and made them all jump up and look about them for mutual assistance. On one side Bilboa has been evacuated, and on the other the siege of Cadiz has been raised,—both of them very good events, though the latter ought not to have produced so much noise as the Ministers made about it on Thursday, with their guns and Gazettes. The indulgence of one mode of triumph on all occasions, small as well as great, is not only a slur upon our achievements in general, but tends to diminish the value of those manifestations of joy with which the greatest victories are announced. It is rumoured, that the French forces have been enabled to effect a junction in the South with JOSEPH BONAPARTE in the midst of them, and that the Marquis of WELLINGTON, on that account, does not consider himself as authorised to advance; and MASSENA, in the mean time, is said to have passed through Bayonne, on his way to supersede MARMONT, with 10,000 men, and a promise of five times that number to follow him. To this gathering together of strength, it certainly does not appear that we have at present any thing equal, physically speaking, to oppose. The Spaniards, every body must now be convinced, really avail us nothing: our Sicilian Expedition has come to nothing: and before a regiment of Life Guards can set out upon an emergency, we must see them for a whole month lounging about in expectation of the new caps and jackets, which the genius of their ROYAL MASTER has taken so considerate a leisure to form and beautify.—But we are still on the right side of the cause; our late success has flushed our soldiers with eagerness; and we have a treasure in the resources of Lord WELLINGTON'S mind, upon which, as far as victories are concerned, we may reasonably draw for the most brilliant expectations. It is, at any rate, an inspiriting thing, to see him turn the tables upon BONAPARTE in one of his favourite modes of proceeding, and occupy the capital of a disputed country. It is a sure proof also, if proof were wanting, that his success at Salamanca was as great as we thought it. However, the main point depends upon BONAPARTE'S fortune in the North. If he should happen to be killed there, as our stock-jobbers were so ready to anticipate, Spain would be free at once, for the French Court must by this time regard the war in the Peninsula as quite a personal matter of his own, and be heartily sick of it, in common with the rest of their countrymen;—if he should suffer any serious reverse, there would still be a good chance of its evacuation:—but if he succeed against ALEXANDER,—as there still seems the greater probability,—we confess, that under our present system in Court and Cabinet, we do not think that the genius of Lord WELLINGTON will be able to withstand the numbers and the refreshed vigour which BONAPARTE will be able to pour into Spain against him.

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Two more French Bulletins have arrived.—The French have driven the Russians from Smolensko, before which city,—according to the ministerial papers,—they were to have made a stand.—Moscow, it seems, is the next point; but it is even doubted whether ALEXANDER will risk a battle for its defence.

New York Papers from the 11th July to the 8th of August have arrived. The dispatch, announcing the repeal of our Orders in Council, had reached America, but the effect produced on the Republican Government had not transpired when these Papers were sent off. The *National Intelligencer*, however, (the official paper) contains an article of a very pacific nature, and if it speaks the sentiments of the American Government, there can be little doubt that the repeal of our Orders will put an immediate end to the war.—An American detachment has entered Canada, and has taken the town of Sandwich on the Lake Huron. There have been serious riots at Baltimore, merely in consequence of the republication of a paper hostile to the democratic interest. General LINGAN was killed; General LEE and many others dreadfully wounded.—These are sad doings indeed.

The Neptune and John have arrived at Plymouth from Quebec; they sailed five weeks since, in company with a fleet consisting of about 72 sail, under convoy of the Savage, of 16 guns.—The information they bring is, that the British troops had marched from Quebec into the

interior, in order to commence operations against the Americans, who had appeared in force in Upper Canada, and had taken Amherst and a few other forts of little consequence; the Canadians had expressed their determination to support the British. Quebec was very strongly fortified, and no apprehensions were entertained for its safety.

Part of the Quebec Fleet is arrived, and there are no apprehensions entertained for the safety of the remainder. The fleet amounted to 80 sail, and parted 17 days since to the eastward of the Banks of Newfoundland. The Minerva frigate, with seven transports, and 1,600 troops, were going up to Quebec as the above ships came down the river. One of the transports, No. 239, with 200 soldiers, having parted the convoy, was captured by the American frigate Essex, but ransomed for 12,000 dollars.

The proceedings of the American people of Baltimore are altogether disgraceful.—A newspaper, called the *Federal Republican*, had published some violent party strictures. The mob attacked the office, which was defended by a number of armed persons (among them Gen. LEE, who distinguished himself in the war for independence.)—Shots were fired upon the populace, when one man was killed and three or four wounded.—Upon this, the people became almost frantic. The military were called out, and the defenders of the printing office surrendered themselves, and were marched to prison. The mob, however, could not wait for justice: they forced the jail, and assaulted the prisoners. Some of them escaped; but Gen. LINGAN was killed, and General LEE, with several more, badly wounded.—One man was barbarously tarred and feathered, and otherwise ill-treated.

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"Government received dispatches this day from Lord WILLIAM BENTINCK, communicating, we understand, the interesting intelligence, that vassalage, villeinage, and all feudal rights, are for ever abolished in Sicily, and that a new Constitution is immediately to be formed in that country, on the model of the British Constitution. This determination has diffused general joy throughout Sicily, and they look forward with eager hope to the benefits to be derived from these measures, under the protection of the British Government."—*Sun, Sept.* 12.

"We yesterday mentioned a rumour of JOSEPH BONAPARTE having been taken; we understand that Sir HOME POPHAM has transmitted a report which reached him from Saldanha, stating, that JOSEPH BONAPARTE had BEEN TAKEN PRISONER at Taranzon, and the troops he had with him totally defeated. Sir HOME gives this report as he received it."—*Same Paper.*

One of the Morning Papers construes the expression in the Bulletin, of OUDINOT "having been struck on the shoulder by a Biscayen," as having been stabbed in the shoulder by a Biscayen, a Spaniard."—This is a mistake; a *Biscayen* is a cannon ball of a small calibre, and it was this, not the dagger of a Spaniard, that wounded OUDINOT.

The Address delivered by the CROWN PRINCE, at the close of the Diet of Orebro, preserves the most guarded silence with regard to his political views. It is silent on the subject of the Treaty with England; and while it alludes to the extension of hostilities from the banks of the Tagus to those of the Dwina, it professes a wish that Sweden may be enabled to adhere to a pacific policy.

"A very active Impress (says the *Courier*) has taken place within these few days on the river, and at the several out-ports. So great is the demand for seamen, that the *indulgence* hitherto granted by the Board of Admiralty, in allowing the release of individuals under certain restrictions, is, it is said, suspended during the present exigency."—The Judges were excessively angry with Mr. DRAKARD, when, in his paper, a comparison was drawn between the French and British military system, and the preference given to the former, simply because the cat-o'-nine tails was never used.—They talked of Frenchmen being dragged from their homes by the Conscription, and compelled to serve in foreign parts.—This is indeed very true and very wicked: but is there nothing offensive and oppressive in dragging men from their peaceable pursuits, to serve in our Navy?—And it is an "indulgence," truly, that an Englishman should be protected against being forcibly seized by a gang of ruffians, manacled, and compelled to serve for years, against both his inclination and his interest!—Monstrous as the Law of the Conscription certainly is, it is yet not so abominable, and partial, and unjust, as this vile system of impressing.

The 10th Light Dragoons are to change their uniform previous to their coming into London to take the *town duty*. Their new dress will be red instead of blue; and instead of blue furniture to their horses, scarlet trappings with rich gold lace. The whole will be much more splendid than their present equipment. The PRINCE REGENT, the papers say, has devoted much of his time and taste to the study of the new uniform!—There are many *Princes* whom Nature seems to have intended for taylors, and whose abilities appear to extend no farther than the trimming of a coat, or the adjustment of a military cap; but it is not often we can witness the spectacle of a monarch actually wielding a goose, or handling the needle. Such a one, however, was presented by James the Third of Scotland, who, having in his rage torn the charter of the Earl of MORTON, was forced by his nobles to stitch it together again; which operation he performed while seated on his throne, arrayed in his kingly robes!

"People were amused in the early part of the week with a rumour, said to be brought from the coast of France, of BONAPARTE'S having been either killed at the battle of Smolensko, or so severely wounded as to be without chance for recovery. This report the Editor of the *Courier*,—though an adept in such frauds, having some years ago made a nefarious fortune by a similar imposition,—affected to believe, and continued for several days to amuse his credulous readers with futile arguments on its probability. That he might not descend to the grave with any credit, the same Editor tells us, after General SARRAZIN,—whom Ministers first employ to calumniate BONAPARTE, and then cast off, when he has exhausted his budget,—that the man against whom this country has expended 500,000,000 of money, and sacrificed, perhaps, 200,000 soldiers in open warfare, is no other than a COWARD! The weakness and folly of this cannot be exceeded, and the Editor of this unprincipled journal must have perfect contempt for his readers, before he could venture to insult them with such egregious nonsense."—*Stamford News.*

The King of DENMARK has declared, it is said, that he will enter into no negociation with England.

General SARRAZIN has received a passport from the Alien Office to proceed to Sweden, and it is said has quitted London.

## *THE ENTIRE AFFECTION;*

IMITATED FROM THE ACME AND SEPTIMIUS OF CATULLUS.

It is a curious fact, that in the whole compass of the English Poets, great and small, there are not above nine or ten imitations of this accomplished classic,—a circumstance chiefly owing perhaps to his non-appearance among the books that are read at school. It is certainly very far from desirable, that any unexstigated edition of such a writer should be found in the hands of youth; and those teachers who treat him with proper distance on account of his vices, would not injure their consistency or their regard for morals, if they used a little of their reserve towards similar ones in HORACE and others, who have passages left untouched in the school editions, that may, and no doubt often do, injure a young mind for ever. But of all the writers that have existed, CATULLUS is perhaps the most singular instance of moral extremes, passing from the coarsest and most loathsome depravity of sensual abandonment to the most refined and loveliest delicacy of sentiment; and in rejecting the bad part of him with disgust, there is no reason why we should not select and bring forward the good, even out of humanity to his name and as a help towards his atonement. It is universally agreed, that in point of an elegant terseness and of general powers of expression, there is not a more finished master in the Roman language.

Of the few pieces above-mentioned, the only two, that are of value, are an imitation of "Miser Catulle, desinas ineptire," by THOMAS MOORE, and a paraphrase of the little poem before us by COWLEY. If the latter had been an imitation also instead of a paraphrase, and COWLEY had put nothing into it but his poetry, no other need have been attempted; but though there is the fling of his fine hand in parts of it, and an agreeable insolence towards the conclusion where he runs out into a vein of his own, yet it wants the repose and simplicity of the original, and he cannot restrain his unhappy love of conceits, in spite of the exquisite lesson afforded him by his subject. Thus in the commencement he must tickle us with a side touch, quite out of his business:—

> Whilst on SEPTIMIUS' panting breast
> *(Meaning nothing less than rest)*
> ACME lean'd her loving head,
> &c. &c.

In one part however he has adhered to his original, when perhaps he would have done better otherwise; and this is, where the God of Love is represented as expressing his favourable opinion of the dialogue by *sneezing*,—a very respectable convulsion among the Romans, because they thought it a good omen, but certainly presenting no image to the modern reader that is not ludicrous. He himself was aware of it's danger, and has not only dressed it up in a variety of words, but followed it with a very pretty circumstance of amatory pomp.—But I am writing a preface instead of an advertisement.

> Oh, ACME love! SEPTIMIUS cried,
> As on his lap he held his bride,—
> Oh, if I love thee not, my wife,
> Distractedly, and shall for life

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> ACMEN SEPTIMIUS suos amores
> Tenens in gremio, 'Mea, inquit, Acme,
> Ni te perdite amo, atque amare porro
> Omnes sum assidue paratus annos,
>
> As much as mortal madness can,
> May I, a lost and lonely man,
> Left in a desert to despair,
> Come full upon a lion's glare!
> He said; and LOVE, on tiptoe near him,
> Clapp'd his little hands to hear him.
>
> But ACME, to the lovely youth
> Just dropping back that rosy mouth,
> With smoothing kisses thus replies
> To his intoxicated eyes:—
> My SEPTIMY, my life, my love,
> My husband,—name all names above,—
> So may our lasting service be
> To this one only deity,
> As still more sharply than in thine
> He thrills this doting frame of mine!
> She said; and LOVE, on tiptoe near her,
> Clapp'd his little hands to hear her.
>
> Blest with this omen from above,
> Their lives are one return of love;
> For he, poor fellow, so possess'd,
> Is richer than with East and West;
> And she, in her impassion'd boy,
> Finds all that she can frame of joy.
> Now who has seen, in Love's subjection,
> Two souls more blest in their connection,
> Or who a more entire affection?

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> Quantum qui pote plurimum perire,
> Solus in Libya Indiave tosta,
> Cœsio veniam obvius leoni,
> Hoc ut dixit, Amor sinister ante,
> Dextram sternuit adprobationem.
>
> At ACME, leviter caput reflectens,
> Et dulcis pueri ebrios ocellos
> Illo purpureo ore suaviata,
> Sic, inquit, mea vita SEPTIMILLE,
> Huic uni domino usque serviamus,
> Ut multo mihi major acriorque
> Ignis mollibus ardet in medullis.
> Hoc ut dixit, Amor, sinister ante,
> Dextram sternuit adprobationem.
>
> Nunc ab auspicio bono profecti,
> Mutuis animis amant, amantur:
> Unam SEPTIMIUS misellus ACMEN
> Mavolt quam Syrias Britanniasque;
> Uno in SEPTIMIO fidelis ACME
> Facit delicias libidinesque.
> Quis ullos homines beatiores
> Vidit? Quis Venerem auspicatiorem?

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# THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

## No. 122.

Covent-Garden Theatre has opened for the season. It's first novelty was the appearance of a Mrs. STERLING, on Thursday last, as *Polly*, in the *Beggar's Opera*. This lady, with a good stage figure, an unobtrusive demeanour, a clear voice, and a correct ear, promises to be what is called a respectable singer; but is not calculated, we think, to take any leading part. She seemed to have a proper and sensible idea of the simplicity with which the ballads of this Opera should be sung, though she unaccountably deviated from it in the song of "Cease your Funning,"—a deviation, by the bye, which proved that her better taste was her most politic one, for her graces were of a very prim and deliberate description, and she

ran down her notes with full as much caution as correctness. But even her simplicity wants the proper amount of feeling. Her mode of giving "Oh ponder well" was extremely dry; and the want of a liquid facility in her voice, that is to say, of a proper flow where flowing is requisite, made her halt occasionally upon a note before she could make it speak, though when it came at last it was perfectly true. A painter would say, that her style had a hard outline. Her best performances were her answer to "Pretty Polly, say,"—and her part in the duet of "The Miser thus."

Incledon, after a lapse of two years, returned in this opera to his old character of *Macheath*, and was heartily welcomed. In one respect, he appears to more advantage in it than he used; in another, not to so much;—he plays it better, most probably from having seen Elliston in it; but his voice is not so stout as it was, and his notes begin to grow indistinct in particular passages,—a deficiency, which his propensity to gabbling renders the more observable. He still however possesses considerable power, when he chuses to put it forth; and there is always an English something about his voice, which in spite of his vulgar volubility and splay-mouthed pronunciation it is pleasant and invigorating to hear. His *Macheath* altogether is very far from being the true one. He is too doleful in some parts of it, and has too little of the metropolis about his general appearance:—he looks in short like a jolly young farmer sporting a new pair of boots and buckskins on a market day; whereas *Macheath*, who affects a knowledge of the town and of the cant of fashion, should at least have a certain slang of good breeding about him,—something between the pertness of the footman and the bravado of the town buck. If Elliston had Incledon's voice, with a little leaven of Dr Camp to lower his gentility, he would do it to perfection.

It is easy to see, that the *Beggar's Opera* would long ago have lost its attractions, had it not been for the never-dying charm of simplicity in its songs and music, and for one or two gross scenes, which the audience are glad enough to enjoy in an old piece, though they would never tolerate them in a new one. Gay was a man of no great positive talent. His taste for a humourous simplicity was the best part of him, and even that was of a negative cast, and rather told him what to avoid than to do. The merits of the *Beggar's Opera* are of this description, possessing no strong feature of talent either in the language, manner, or satire, but always true to good sense, with a pleasant feeling for burlesque, and a vein of ridicule against the vices of high life, which is perfectly intelligible to every body, and particularly welcome to the majority of a promiscuous assembly. It was this feature of general intelligibility, to which the great success of the piece was most probably owing on its first appearance. The upper orders, who were not as refined as they are at present, were pleased with so plain a picture of the lower; and the lower were delighted to find themselves so much at their ease with a satirist of the upper.—The habit of appealing however to common life, though it assisted the temporary views of the school in which Gay was formed, was a most serious injury to it upon the whole. If it abounded, as it certainly did to exuberance, in wit, the exuberance was of a most rank description; and there grew up a vulgarity about their habits of mind, originating perhaps with Swift, the contamination of which even the purity of Addison could not escape, and which not only polluted the language of Pope, but appears to have materially kept down and depraved his imagination.

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Plymouth Breakwater.—There are two plans it seems, for this costly and doubtful undertaking.—The difference between Mr. Rennie's and Mr. Moyle's is stated to be, that the latter's is to connect the Breakwater with the land at Ram's Cliff Point, on the east of the Sound, and extend it from thence in a concave direction to the Panther Rock, instead of constructing the work in the middle of the entrance;—the reason given for this is, to prevent the sudden resistance to the swell which enters in South, S.S.W. and S.W. winds, and with a view to produce a greater depth of water in Cawsand Bay; and also to prevent the possibility of filling up the Sound, which in the other case is said to be certain, and the destruction of the Harbour the inevitable consequence. And in order to assist this, and improve the internal part of the Harbour, it is proposed to construct a Pier on the bridge between St. Nicholas and Mount Edgecombe, which, they say, will afford complete shelter to Barn Pool, where several line-of-battle ships may lay and refit at any time;—and next, to make a new passage from the Sound into Hamoaze, by cutting through a small isthmus between Firestone Bay and Stonehouse Pool, which it is supposed will admit the largest ship in the navy to enter Hamoaze in a straight line, and in almost any wind, without the necessity of going round the Devil's Point, which is attended with great difficulty and danger. This improvement of the harbour they suppose will also considerably add to the advantages before stated, as it will produce one uniform current from the Sound into Cawsand Bay, which will greatly assist ships in going in and out of Port; and the whole, it is added, may be done for much less money than the plan proposed by Mr. Rennie, and may be finished in one half the time.

## *MOCK AUCTIONS.*

Among the various practices resorted to, in this metropolis, to plunder its inhabitants, that of selling goods at what are not very improperly termed "Mock Auctions," is not the least profitable to the knaves who resort to them. —Persons, indeed, who have some experience of these things, are not likely to be doped; but they do not form the majority; and it may be of some service to a very worthy, if not a very wise, part of the people, to exhibit a few of the outward and visible signs by which a "Mock Auction" may be known and avoided.

The rogues who thus profit by the ignorance of the buyer, frequently form themselves into a firm, and announce the sale as by "*Messrs.* —— and *Co.*" taking special care to put the name of some respectable and well-known Auctioneer in front. This is a very common practice; and though there may be an exception or two to the rule, yet it may generally be fairly concluded, that when "*Messrs.* —— and *Co.*" are to sell, that a genuine sale,—that is, one without *reserve*,—is the very last thing intended; but that certain obscure dealers, who cannot find a ready sale for their *bad goods*, are uniting together to puff them off by auction.—For this purpose, a house is usually taken in a respectable part of the town,—the rubbish intended for sale is silently sent in,—the advertise-

ments are put forth,—and the carpets displayed at the windows.—But when you get into the sale-room, instead of seeing a crowd, and being elbowed by burly brokers,—for these gentlemen have as great a horror of a "Mock Auction," as a Fellow of the Royal College has of a Quack Doctor,—you discover only eight or ten odd-looking persons, male and female (the owners of the things and their puffers), and a few simple strangers, who are really come to buy bargains!—The articles put up are usually new, and when the owners have run them up to *their* price, they are knocked down to a Mr. Thompson, or a Mrs. Wilson, or a Mr. Anybody that the Impostor chuses to name, unless some unhappy dropper-in,—struck with the overpowering eloquence of the Auctioneer, who pathetically intreats the company not to sacrifice such a useful, beautiful, and costly piece of furniture at less than half its value—should bid after the said Mr. Thompson or Mrs. Wilson. In such case, the lot is knocked down to the last and of course the best bidder, who soon learns, that he has at least paid as large a sum in ready money for his "useful, beautiful, and costly" bargain, as would have procured a much better article, of the fair dealer, on the usual terms. Indeed, he may think himself pretty well off, if he escapes so easily; for it as often happens, that double the proper value has been paid in this way.

Besides the thinness and ill-looks of the assembly, the newness of the articles for sale, the absence of the brokers, and the designation of the Auctioneers as "*Messrs.* —— and *Co.*" there are other matters, which may be deemed pretty good evidence in marking the "Mock Auction" from the genuine sale.—The residence of the firm is often omitted at the bottom of the catalogues, and they are not unfrequently printed without the dates and days of the sale being specified, but have merely, "first day's sale," at the top; so that they may serve on some other honest occasion.—When the goods have not been removed to some room, "a sale not being permitted on the premises," and are to be put up in a house hired for the purpose, you may at once detect the trick, by observing that many of the things could not possibly have belonged to the house, being larger, or smaller, or otherwise manifestly unfit.

Had these practices been rare, or even decreasing, they might not perhaps have been worthy such attention; but "Mock Auctions," it seems, are every where starting up; and the writer of this exposition has been assured, from good authority, that a gentleman was recently plundered at one of them of several hundred pounds,—and that thousands are annually obtained by the system.—And it really seems worth the time and space, should only a small number of honest people,—perhaps some young folks newly married, possessing merely a few pounds to set them off in life,—be spared the loss and chagrin ever attendant on being made the dupes of a set of scoundrels; who, though they perhaps manage to avoid the visitations of the law, are in justice as fit subjects for the pillory as any blackleg or pickpocket in the land.

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

MR. EXAMINER—One day last week, a friend of mine, who within the last twelve months has resided in Norfolk, and shews the effects of country air in his face, was passing along Fleet-street upon business which brought him to London, when his notice was drawn to a catalogue, pinned in the usual manner upon a piece of carpet, and nailed outside the door. More from curiosity than a wish to purchase, he went in; and as he has much penetration in these matters, he is happy to caution others from being the dupes of such a swindling set. On his entering the room, he perceived about a dozen persons, men and women, and the Auctioneer was talking in the usual way, bellowing nonsense and puffing trash. My friend looked about him, and perceiving immediately that this was a *Mock Auction*, he proceeded to examine a bed; when on turning round towards the noisy gentleman, he heard him cry out louder than before, "the bed is the next lot, Ladies and Gentlemen." Upon which, my friend asked him what was the number of the lot he had sold? No. 15, was the answer. The bed however was to be the next sold, as it followed the number mentioned;—it was put up, and Mr. H. bid for it: it was soon run up to a large sum; when a man got into conversation with him, and observed, that these brokers never buy unless they can get a bargain, and that it was always safe to bid after them, as it must be *worth* a pound more to a gentleman than to a man who buys to sell again. Mr. H. perceiving he was *bested*, immediately advanced nine pounds on the last bidding, which much pleased the Auctioneer, and he added a further advance, upon which a slight addition was made by my friend, and a subsequent one by the seller, when Mr. H. turned round to look at something else, and the lot was obliged to be knocked down to the "best bidder," who was evidently a "puffer," *and one of the firm.* Mr. H. looking at the catalogue, and perceiving upwards of one hundred and fifty lots, was surprized to find they jumped from No. 15, to 80 or 90, in order to put up some old bottle-stands. I need not relate the same thing over again:—it will therefore suffice, that I tell you he treated them thus several times (about five lots were thus disposed of), when the Auctioneer exclaimed, "Ladies and Gentlemen, we have done selling for to-day." The company, however, did not move off, being no doubt all concerned, and wishing *only* to get rid of this gentleman, until the lord of the hammer again vociferated, "we have done for to-day—porter, clear the room!" The assembly then broke up, leaving my intruding friend parleying with the porter, to whom he expressed his wonder, that their sale should close so soon, and leave so many articles undisposed of;—the man answered, they will be sold to-morrow: to which Mr. H. replied, then I will attend to-morrow, as there appears to be some goods I may want. To his question of, "Is this to be sold to-morrow?" which he put to the man several times, he got for answer, No, it was sold to-day; and upon my friend observing, that they were at No. 15 when he entered, and had sold only five lots, which made only 20, and that several articles were numbered 112 and so on, the porter *edged* himself between the goods and Mr. H., until he got him quite down stairs; he then took down the catalogues and carpets to prevent my friend's reading, and was most particularly annoyed by his crossing the way to examine the house, which in less than a quarter of an hour was so altered, by the removal of door-posts, &c. as scarcely to leave it recognizable.—That the intention of this auction, and many more, is to deceive country people in particular is evident, from the appearance of the following sentence in italics at the bottom of the catalogues:—"Goods sold at this auction will be packed free of expence for the country." This was also repeated several times during the sale. That the unwary may not be taken in, let them examine well the goods, and attend to the mode of selling; it would however be better that they should not trust too much to buying *bargains*, as they will often meet, as in the present instance, with many blind ones. I should not omit, that on Mr. H.'s entrance, several persons, in different parts of the room, just as he passed them, were complimenting each other on their "last lucky lot." A man who had been bidding against him, came up at the time he was examining a piece of furniture below, and said, that was not to be sold; and upon the question of, "How do you know that?" being put, he quietly walked off. Is it not, Mr. Examiner, a shame, that our Police should be so negligent as to overlook such *noon-day frauds!* surely, it *must* come within their jurisdiction; at all events, I hope it will meet with your notice. —I am, &c. your constant reader, T. H.

*Sunday, Aug. 30, 1812.*

## *NATIONAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—The Lectures *—of Mr. Hervé having excited a considerable degree of interest in the public mind, and a strong desire that an active Committee should be immediately formed, to transact the necessary business of the Institution, Mr. Hervé has deemed it expedient to forego his original design of deferring the appointment of a Local Committee for London till his return to the metropolis, in the beginning of the ensuing year, and to call on the Subscribers to appoint one forthwith, as thereby he considers the interests of the Institution will be materially forwarded.

The Subscribers to the Institution have therefore been requested by advertisement, in some of the daily papers, to meet on Tuesday next, the 15th instant, at the Freemason's Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, to appoint a Local Committee for six months; at the expiration of which time, another general meeting of the Subscribers will be called. The Chair will be taken precisely at one.

As you do not admit advertisements into your paper, I have, on the behalf of the Institution, to solicit the favour of your making the proposed meeting known, in such manner as you may deem most proper; not doubting, from the experience of your past endeavours to recommend this Institution to your readers, that you will with pleasure aid it by your gratuitous assistance in the present instance.—I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

SAM. WELCHON, Secretary.

19, *Tokenhouse-yard, Lothbury, 10th Sept.* 1812.

* The last Lecture for this season was delivered on Monday. Lord MOIRA having kindly procured for Mr. HERVE the use of the Freemason's Hall, he was heard with great attention by more than two thousand persons; and yet of those who wished to get in, full one-third were disappointed.—A number of the hearers, at the conclusion of the Lecture, gave in their names as Subscribers; and the founder may now proceed into the country, to forward the work of charity, with the gratifying conviction, that the infant Institution is every day adding to its strength and character.—*Examiner.*

## *ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—As a constant reader of your Paper, I beg leave to direct your attention to an afflicting circumstance that has lately occurred. You will find in the papers an account of a man being found in an area of the Admiralty. The writer of this is a near relation, much afflicted by the loss of the best of friends, particularly as it cannot be ascertained how he came to the fatal spot; but there is much room to suspect he was robbed and thrown down the area, which is full ten feet deep. That he was robbed, there is no doubt; and as there are many rumours, but none that I have seen strictly true, I shall take the liberty of putting you in possession of the facts:—The deceased was one of the mildest men possible; a good husband, father, and sincere friend; and though walking in an humble sphere, no man was more respected or regretted by his superiors as well as equals. The true circumstances are these:—On Saturday last, the deceased was invited to dine in the city, with a number of other workmen: having completed some work much to the satisfaction of a gentleman, he gave them a treat. At 12 o'clock the foreman and the deceased parted, a little elevated with liquor, but not so much but he was well able to walk. It is supposed he came through the Fair in his way to Westminster, as some nuts were found in his pockets; We can trace nothing further, till he was found in the area at the Admiralty, about half-past eight on Sunday morning, by a man named Williams, and two others: his skull dreadfully fractured; his hat, which was a new one, not to be found; and his pockets empty. It is a fact ascertained, that he had four or five dollars in his pockets at the time the foreman left him at twelve:—this, I think, shews very clearly that he was robbed. On being found,—it seems he was very strangely used by Lord Melville's steward and others,—his face was washed and a surgeon sent for, who advised his being taken to Middlesex Hospital, where he underwent the operation of trepanning. During this time his disconsolate wife, family, and friends, were running from one end of the town to the other in search of him; nor could they find him, till one of them looked in the newspaper, and there saw an account of a man being found, as before mentioned. Immediately they flew to see him; he seemed to know some of them, and every effort was made to get him by signs to inform them if he had been ill used, but in vain. He was found at five on Monday afternoon, and died at six the next morning.—My object in troubling you with these particulars is, that if you think proper to oblige me by taking any notice of this unfortunate circumstance, you may be correct; and as I am in the habit of taking in your paper almost from the first publication, and binding them every year for the use of my family, I should be very happy, if there is any account at all, that it should be exactly as it occurred, as far as it can be traced at present. The deceased's name was *John Foster*, of Wood-street, Westminster, in the employ of Mr. Palmer, of Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street, for upwards of six and twenty years,—about fifty years of age. He has left a wife and five children to lament his loss. T. F.

MURDER.—Some jocularities having passed on Sunday, at dinner, between a young man and the wife of a fishmonger, of the name of Dodd, resident at West Ham, Essex, the husband, enraged at what he construed into an improper familiarity, plunged a knife, with which he was eating, into the heart of the unfortunate woman; her death was instantaneous. Dodd was immediately secured.

Bartholomew Fair exhibited on Saturday se'nnight a scene of riot and confusion which has seldom been exceeded. The influx of persons of all descriptions was immense, and at ten o'clock every avenue leading to the fair was crammed. Those who happened to be in the interior of the mob could not be extricated, and those who were outside were in the most imminent danger of being crushed to death against the booths. Several females fainted and were trodden under foot, others forced their way on the top of the crowd, and crawling on their heads, were rescued from their perilous situation by the performers in the booths. Many accidents occurred. A fine child, about a twelvemonth old, is said to have been suffocated in the arms of its mother. The unfortunate woman did not discover the hapless fate of her infant, until she reached Giltspur-street, when she rent the air with the most frantic shrieks.

The *Freeman's Journal* contained a statement, that a Mr. Campbell, of Drumcondra, near Dublin, had been shot by the hand of his wife in a fit of insanity, and that she immediately attempted to destroy herself with another pistol. This horrible statement has been contradicted in the same paper, so far as regarded the unhappy widow; the verdict of the Coroner's Jury being, that Mr. C. "being insane, shot himself with a pistol."

### MARRIAGES.

On Tuesday, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Sir James Bland Burgess, of Benn Port, Sussex, Bart. to the Right Hon. Lady Margaret Fordyce.

### DEATHS.

On Wednesday, at the Mote, of a typhus fever, the Right Hon. the Countess of Romney.

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# THE EXAMINER.

No. 247 SUNDAY, SEPT. 20, 1812.

## THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT

No. 239.

### OF SPAIN, CONSIDERED AS AN OBSTACLE TO PEACE.

THERE are a set of disinterested reasoners in this country, in the shape of Courtiers, Contractors, Ministers, and Dependents in general, who have a pleasant way of proving to you, on any ground you may chuse to take, that the war with France must be eternal. In the first place, say they, France and England are natural enemies,—that is, they live next door to each other, and therefore must fight, out of pure Christian neighbourhood;—secondly, trade cannot go on, while France throws so many obstructions in it's way; therefore we had better have no trade at all;—thirdly, the war has given BONAPARTE an alarming increase of power, and therefore it must be continued to take it away from him;—fourthly, Peace would only enable him to make additional preparations against us, and as we could not meet them with any such on our parts, we must shew him that we possess a never-dying strength;—fifthly, as his situation is in it's nature precarious, and our own resources, on the other hand, are *inexhaustible*, it is fit that we manifest a just alarm at his taking breath;—sixthly and lastly, it is clear that unless we continue to fight him eternally, he will never let the world be at peace.

As these delightful arguments, which only seem ludicrously put because they are presented in their own naked absurdity, have been answered over and over again, to the satisfaction of every body but the gentlemen abovementioned, and of certain small politicians, who have been accustomed ever since they were school-boys to look big and hostile at the sound of the word Frenchman, we think it quite unnecessary to take any further notice of them at present, and shall merely look at a question which has been started on this occasion among the advocates of peace themselves. It is,—how far we are, or we are not, to consider our present connection with Spain as affording just ground of hesitating to make peace.

And here we must premise, that in our opinion it is clearly incumbent upon us to do our utmost for the Spaniards as long as there is the smallest reasonable hope of success, and that when BONAPARTE, in talking of peace, affects to consider Spain as his own, we ought not to listen to him. There are two features in the contest, which as long as any such hope remains, we ought always to have before us;—one, that for the first time in his quarrels with other nations, he has entered into a contest without provocation or a shadow of justice, and therefore has the natural weakness of a wrong cause on his side;—the other, that it is both our duty and interest, as a free nation threatened by his ambition, to shew him the difficulties he has to encounter in subduing even a degenerate people, who have the smallest will of their own, and who can act against him in the smallest manner *as* a people. For these two considerations, it appears to us to be politic, in every sense of the word large as well as small, to fight him on Spanish ground as long as we have strength to make him feel his mistake:—it will teach him that he has hitherto fought with the errors of Government and not with the right feelings of the people:—it will teach him that though one despotism, which possesses youth and talent, may crush another despotism grown old in corruption, it will at least find a difficulty in crushing the slightest resistance offered it by a movement of freedom:—it will teach him that the moment he imitates the corruption and injustice of the Governments he has humiliated, that moment he begins to partake of their weakness and to subject himself to similar mortification;—finally, it will teach him what to expect, if after experiencing so much difficulty in conquering a people who have but caught a glimpse of freedom, he chuses to come and rouse the popular spirit, and the domestic rage and indignation, of a people, who, with all the corruptions of their constitution, are freedom itself in comparison with his subjects. Let the actual result therefore of the contest be what it may, these difficulties and good lessons, thrown in the way of ambition, are sufficient to justify its continuance; for the supposition of some politicians, that BONAPARTE from the beginning saw the difficulty himself and calculated upon it as a means of draining us of our strength, has always appeared to us a strange over refinement. They seem to imagine that a conqueror of his genius and success cannot commence an undertaking upon an ill-considered impulse, or without the profoundest and surest calculations of success; whereas, though it is not likely he should do otherwise on ordinary occasions of war, the very essence of such an ambition as his is a deficiency in self-command and an absolute obedience to impulse; and we confess, that with all our sense of his great talents both as a Politician and a Commander, we saw nothing in his seizure of the Spanish throne but a disgusting combination of all that was blind in ambition, insolent in power, and mean in contrivance. He may have talked to others of the eventual liberality of his views, and have cloaked the thing over to his conscience by the same argument; neither is it to be denied, that as far as his personal views will allow him to assist the progress of society, he is willing enough to do so; but as no intellectual deficiency on the part of Spain could justify so gross and contradictory a method of beginning to enlighten her, so it has become manifest, that in being

guilty of such a piece of injustice, he stumbled upon a piece of very bad policy, unless it can be called good policy in a conqueror to lose his character for quickness and certainty of conquest, to rouse the best feelings of men against him, and to have his armies cut up and his Generals deprived of their reputation. What he diminishes of our physicial strength by these means, he at least makes up by the loss of physical and moral strength on his own part; and the main nerve of our resistance,—the freedom of spirit,—he leaves not only untouched, but refreshed and reassured.

Very well, say the advocates for war;—we agree with you on this head, though we do not much understand what you tell us about his imitation of other governments;—but do you mean to say, that when we have obtained an advantage over him, we ought not to pursue it? Do you mean to say, that we ought not to make the most of our successes? In a word, do you mean to tell us, after expressing such an opinion about him, that we ought to think of such a thing as *Peace*?—Certainly we do. These eternal warriors, it must be allowed, have a pleasant way of adhering to their text through all contradictions. You must not make peace with Bonaparte when he is successful, because that would be acknowledging disadvantages; and you must not make peace with him when he is unsuccessful, because that would be giving up advantages; ergo (and the conclusion is certainly undeniable upon such premises,) you cannot make peace with him at all. But to make peace would be to pursue our advantages;—to make peace would be the way to make the very utmost of our successes, and now is the moment, of all others, for turning the tables on Bonaparte, and offering it to him ourselves. Hear what is said on the subject by one of the first understandings of any age or nation:—"A general peace is our true policy: upon a general peace the actual prosperity of the kingdom must be speedily placed; the partial pacification with America, may be of consequence as a prop to our commercial interests, but our real warfare is of more general extent. It is in this light that, with joy and expressions of sincere congratulation, I mention the late glorious victory of Salamanca. In that victory ought to be placed an earnest expectation of peace—it is an *indisputable* victory—the French accounts, with all their usual falsifications, have not attempted to rob us of these well-earned laurels, and, therefore, in this acknowledged and undoubted victory, we have now no doubt that we are able to beat the French whenever the disproportion of numbers is not extremely great. The battles of Corunna and Talavera had indeed confirmed us in this truth, if we had wanted confirmation, but the victory of Salamanca is *incontrovertible*. What is to be concluded from this?—certainly that we need no longer be scrupulous: we may now either accept or offer negociation: we may now ask what are our real interests and those of Europe;—for the false delicacy of concession is [illegible] because after this victory, who shall say that we cannot concede with honour? Glorious in many ways—in this it is truly advantageous, that it offers us the means of Peace."*

The truth is, that although we enjoy the glory and the benefit of being able to give Bonaparte the lesson abovementioned, there are not only boundaries to our means of annoying him on this occasion, over which we cannot hope to pass, but considerations for the future, which should urge us to make every possible use of the present moment for securing the main objects of the peninsular war. If in addition to throwing admonitory difficulties in his way, and fortifying our own safety and reputation at the expense of his Generals, we could reasonably hope to obtain a lasting freedom for Spain by continuing the war, it would become us to fight till we dictated a peace on the Pyrenees; but there are two considerations, which should make us pause in the midst of our advantages, and see whether we could not turn them to better account now than hereafter. In the first place, we think that the chances are in favour of Bonaparte; or, at any rate, the most sanguine of politicians must allow that it is possible for him to be successful; and in the second, those who know any thing about the Spaniards must confess, that it is possible we shall have done little for them, even if we are successful.

Granting then, in the first place, if only for the mere sake of argument, that by reason of advantages in the North, and from the superiority of his military resources, Bonaparte should succeed in his subjugation of Spain, the benefits of an immediate peace must be clear at once. It would be consistent with our professions of moderation and of our wish to spare the needless effusion of blood: it would set us on a level with Bonaparte as to the ground of concession, and lift us infinitely above him in all that exalts the character of conquest; it would leave us in full possession of the advantages which we have gained for our character and our future safety, as a puissant and free people;—and finally, it would secure all that we have obtained for the Spaniards, or at least all that the Spaniards would allow us to obtain for them, without running us any future hazard in the field.

But, in the second place, we may succeed in this contest, generally speaking, without realizing at last those desirable successes over Bonaparte's cunning and influence, which depend, not upon ourselves, but the Spaniards, and which the Spaniards, we think, would be as far as ever from securing. It is manifest to every body, and must long have been painfully so to Lord Wellington, that they have not assisted us heartily in their own cause. It is true, they light up, and shout at us, and congratulate each other when we enter a city; but we venture to affirm, that it is a thousand times more for having got rid of one set of intruders, than for finding themselves in contact with those, whom we are afraid they consider as another set. The recollection of us, when circumstances, by putting us at a distance, shall no longer remind them of their obliga-

* Speech of Mr. Brougham at the dinner given to him by the people of Liverpool.

tions, and when fresh hamperings perhaps with a *new ally* shall make them come to final and useful comparisons between bad Catholics and good Heretics, may one day make them wish they had felt as they ought sooner; but in the mean time, the pride which they have long retained as a nation without having cause for it, and the Superstition which still clings about them in spite of their collision with us, are continually taunting their minds with the painful conviction that we are at once a superior nation and a nation of Heretics. There is a talk of gratitude and a talk of cordiality; but where is the effect, except among a few peasants who really feel for their country, and a few enlightened spirits, who find it difficult to live under their Regencies and Cortes? They assist us in nothing; they leave us to fight for them in every thing and to pay for them in every thing; they have even suffered the Portuguese to get the start of them in activity and military spirit; and we understand, that the refuse of the Court, who under the various denominations of Juntas and Regencies, have been hanging like a dead weight on their exertions, retain to this moment such a ridiculous pride and self-ignorance as to fancy they are absolutely doing *us* and not *themselves* a favour, when they afford us even the wretched and dilatory assistance they do. Do we suppose that Bonaparte is not aware of all this, and that he does not regard himself, during the odious comparisons which he is hazarding between Frenchmen and Englishmen, as possessing a feeling in reserve, which on a future day, should he ever be in want of it, shall turn their attachments into the old channel, and make them as willing to think well of fellow-Papists again, as they have been unwilling to think well of Protestants? No doubt he does; and we would not lay one to ten, that should the Spaniards succeed even in establishing a Government entirely new and independent, they would not in the course of a few years renew their alliance with France, proud of having brought the great Napoleon to terms, and eager to prove, through the mediation of his good friend the Pope, that their former friends had not contaminated them.—But this is to suppose what is not very likely on any view of events,—that they erect themselves into a state independent of all former circumstances and connexions. We ourselves, in fighting for their liberty, do not profess to go so far:—we still proclaim *King Ferdinand* as the great end and object of our restorative powers; Bonaparte smiles and keeps him closer when he hears us; and in the person of this poor creature, so proclaimed on the one hand and so kept closely on the other, we may contemplate the sure defeat of our hopes, let us succeed as we will.—If ever Bonaparte should be so pushed in Spain as to doubt any reasonable prospect of success, he will bring this magic automaton forward, and by declaring that Ferdinand and *he* have since come to other conclusions respecting the destiny of the Spanish Throne, contrive to turn the attainment of our own object against us as a means of maintaining his interference and eventually regaining his influence with the Court of Madrid. To Ferdinand's mind, enlivened as it would be by the impulse given to his animal spirits, any sort of explanation would come with a good grace from his "illustrious friend;" and should his subjects be inclined to look with an evil eye upon an alliance with the family of their disturber, there is the House of Austria,—a most ancient and unexceptionable House,—from whom a Princess would be all that is desirable. Matters would then be made up between Spain and France by an easy though circuitous mode; the Pope, *who has again come to Paris*, besides having an opportunity of carrying favour for the Church from his master, would be eager to take occasion of doing so many good Christian things at once,—of healing divisions, turning the hearts of warriors, obliging his most faithful children the Spaniards, and above all, reconciling two orthodox nations, and preventing the fatal interference of Heretics; and at last, after all our efforts in an imaginary cause, we should be compelled to look back upon them as a kind of glorious but idle dream, from which it would have been well for our domestic interests if we had awakened sooner.

☞

## *FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.*

### FRANCE.

### FIFTEENTH BULLETIN OF THE GRAND ARMY.

*Slawkowo, August 27.*

The General of division Zayoncheick, who commanded a Polish division at the battle of Smolensko, was wounded. The behaviour of the Polish corps at Smolensko astonished the Russians, who used to despise them. They were struck with their steadiness, and the superiority which they displayed over themselves.

At the battles of Smolensko and Valontina, the enemy lost twenty Generals killed, wounded, or taken, and a very great number of officers. The number of men killed, taken, or wounded, on these occasions, may amount to from 20 to 30,000 men.

On the day after the battle of Valontina, his Majesty gave the 12th and 21st regiments of infantry of the line, and the 7th regiment of light infantry, a number of decorations of the Legion of Honour, to be bestowed on the Captains, Lieutenants, Subalterns, and Soldiers. The selections were made on the field, in a circle before the Emperor, and were confirmed with acclamations by the troops.—[Here follows a list of the respective individuals.]

Number of decorations granted:—To the 12th regiment, 30—21st, 25—7th light, 32—Total, 87.

The enemy's army, in retiring, burn the bridges and destroy the roads, in order to retard the march of the French army as much as possible. On the 21st, they had repassed the Borysthenes at Slob Pniwa, always closely followed by our advanced guard.

The commercial establishments at Smolensko were quite untouched on the Borysthenes, in a fine suburb, to which the Russians set fire, for the sole purpose of retarding our march a single hour. Never was war conducted with so much inhumanity: the Russians treat their own country as they would that of an enemy. The country is fine, and abundantly supplied with every thing. The roads are admirable.

Marshal the Duke of Tarentum continues to destroy Dunabourg. The wooden materials, palisades, &c. which were immense, served to make feux-de-joie in honour of the 15th of August.

Prince Schwartzenberg writes from Ostiati, on the 17th,

that his advanced guard had pursued the enemy on the road to Divin, that he has taken several hundreds of prisoners,—and obliged the enemy to burn his baggage. General Bianchi, however, who commands the advanced guard, has succeeded in seizing 800 baggage-waggons, which the enemy could neither carry off nor destroy. The Russian army, under Tormasow, has lost almost all its baggage.

The equipage for the siege of Riga has begun to move from Tilsit for the Dwina.

General St. Cyr has taken a position on the Drissa. The rout of the enemy at the battle of Polotsk on the 18th was complete. The brave Bavarian General Deroy was wounded on the field of honour, at the age of 72, after nearly 60 years' service. His Majesty has nominated him a Count of the Empire, with a revenue of 30,000 francs. The Bavarian corps behaved with much bravery. His Majesty has granted it rewards and honours.

The enemy gave out that he would make a stand at Doroghobouj. He had, according to custom, thrown up earth and constructed batteries. The army having shewn itself in order of battle, the Emperor repaired thither; but the enemy's General thought better of it,—beat a retreat,—and abandoned Doroghobouj, a city containing ten thousand souls, and eight steeples. Head quarters were there on the 26th, and on the 27th at Slawkovo. The advanced guard is close to Viasma.

The Viceroy manœuvres on the left, at two leagues from the great road; the Prince of Eckmuhl on the great road; and Prince Poniatowski on the left bank of the Osma.

The capture of Smolensko appears to have had a sad effect on the spirits of the Russians. It was called *Smolensko-the-sacred; Smolensko-the-strong; the key of Moscow*; besides a thousand other common sayings. *Whoever has Smolensk, has Moscow*, say the peasants.

The heat is excessive: it has not rained for a month.

The Duke of Belluno, with the 9th corps, 30,000 men strong, has set out from Tilsit for Wilna. This corps is to form the reserve.

## RUSSIA.

### RUSSIAN OFFICIAL DETAILS.

*St. Petersburgh Gazette, August 18.*

Count Wittgenstein states, that Marshal Oudinot drew himself quickly back after the second affair of the 29th July, and has since been frequently attacked by the Russian van-guard, which was following his steps, but that having obtained a considerable reinforcement, he made a stand at Polotsk, where on the 3d instant an action took place, which lasted fourteen hours—cost a great number of men—and obliged them to retire into their trenches. During the retreat and in the battle we have taken above 2000 prisoners. The Duke of Reggio, who in the first instance had been strengthened by the Bavarians; under the command of General Wrede, received a fresh reinforcement of the same troops under General Deroy, after which, on the 6th instant, a most murderous affair took place. The Russian troops, notwithstanding the inferiority of numbers, were victorious at every point, pursued the enemy even to the town, and continued the battle in the streets, until the darkness of the night put an end to it. This day was memorable for the number of killed and wounded; but still we took 2 Lieut.-Cols. 15 Officers, and 500 soldiers prisoners. The General says, that he cannot give to our troops sufficient praise for their bravery in this affair. Marshal Oudinot had been wounded in the shoulder on the 5th instant, and Gen. Gouvion de St. Cyr had taken the command in his place.

## SICILY.

"PALERMO, 24th JULY, 1812.—(*Private Letter.*)—The Parliament held their second sitting (first for dispatch of business) on the 20th, when the following fourteen articles were resolved and passed through the three Chambers, by a large majority, in spite of the influence of the Court. There is no perhaps in history so remarkable a revolution brought about with so much tranquillity. The Barons have given up their feudal rights, and if the Resolutions are followed up, of which I have no doubt, the people will be free. Our Minister deserves the highest credit for his conduct; the Sicilians admit that they owe every thing to his moderation, good sense, and firmness. —1st. The Supreme Authority of making Laws and imposing Taxes, is vested alone in the Nation. 2d. The Executive Power is in the King. 3d. Judicial Authority is in the Magistrates, subject to the approval of Parliament. 4th. The King's person is sacred. 5th. The Ministers are responsible to Parliament. 6th. The Two Chambers to consist of Lords and Commons, and the Clergy to have Seats in the former. 7th. The Barons to have only One Vote each. 8th. The Right of assembling Parliament is in the King, and necessary every year. 9th. The Nation sole Proprietor of the State. 10th. No Sicilian can be judged or condemned, except by Laws to be recognized by Parliament. 11th. The Feudal Law is abolished, as well as the Right of Investiture (Monopoly). 12th. The Privileges of the Barons over their Vassals is also abolished. 13th. Every proposition, relative to Taxation, must originate in the Lower Chamber, and be approved by the Upper. 14th. A modification of the British Constitution to be recommended this Session. The Parliament had their second meeting last night, the 24th. The Ecclesiastical Chamber sent a deputation to the Lords, stating, as their opinion, that the first article of the Resolution should go to establish the religion of the country, which was carried, after a debate. It was then resolved, that the articles already voted by the three Chambers should be forthwith presented to the King for his sanction, previous to any further proceedings, it being argued that if the King should put his *Veto* on these Resolutions (which were to form the basis of the new Constitution) any superstructure formed upon them must fall to the ground. There were only six dissentient voices on this question. Princes Frabeia Cassino (the present Minister of the Interior,) Cuto and Lucchisi Niscemi and two others, voted with the Court. Butera, the premier Baron, gave the first voice for the articles being immediately presented. Their deliberations continued to a late hour. The Marquis Salvo also proposed and carried the 9th Resolution against the Ministers. Prince Belmonte made a most eloquent speech, and to his perseverance, ability, and firmness, every credit is due. The Marquis Salvo also proposed the Trial by Jury, which was opposed by the Lords but carried in the Commons. The Duke of Sperlenga proposed and carried the motion relative to the feudal law, on which occasion he delivered a brilliant speech. I have little more to add than that the Parliament is declared permanent until the constitution is formed. I must conclude, as the courier is going to be dispatched, and I write this in the greatest haste."

## PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The French prisoners at Dartmoor Depot, on Sunday last, had worked themselves up to the highest pitch of rage at having a pound and a half of biscuit, and not bread, per day. The use of biscuit, it is to be observed, was to be discontinued as soon as the bakehouse had been rebuilt; but the Frenchmen were absolutely deaf to remonstrances. A detachment of the Cheshire Militia, and of the South Gloucester regiment, was drawn upon the walls surrounding the prison; and, although they had loaded their pieces with ball, the prisoners appeared undaunted, and insulted them in the grossest terms. A sentinel on duty had his bayonet wrenched off his piece, yet nobly reserved his fire; an officer, however, followed the Frenchman, struck him over the shoulder with his sword, and brought off the bayonet. The Frenchmen even bared their breasts to the troops, and seemed regardless of danger. The number of prisoners is about 7500; and so menacing was their conduct, that an express was sent off to Plymouth, on Sunday night, soliciting immediate assistance. Three pieces of artillery were in consequence sent off early on Sunday morning; and on their arrival at the principal gate, the bars of which, of immense size, had been previously broken by stones hurled against them by the insurgents, they were placed in such directions as completely to command the whole of the circle which the prison describes.

This had the desired effect, and order was restored. It is to be noticed, that the allowance of bread at which these men have so indignantly spurned, is precisely the same as that which is served out to our own sailors and marines.

WELLINGTON.—Instead of expressing their joy at the late successes in Spain by bonfires, illuminations, and other dangerous and boyish practices, the Gentry of Wellington, in Somersetshire, subscribed a sum of money, and on Monday last supplied to all the poor of the parish—men, women, and children—a good and plentiful dinner, of which 1400 persons actually partook. Four fat bullocks, 16 sheep, and 6 hogsheads of strong beer, were distributed on this occasion.—"It is impossible (says the *Taunton Courier*) "to reflect on the efficacy and beneficence of the conduct of the inhabitants of Wellington, in thus demonstrating their patriotic exultation, without feeling some regret, that a corresponding method is not more generally resorted to on similar occasions. What is the illumination which any quantity of blazing fat can display, compared with that which strikes on the beholders, from the countenances of thousands of our fellow-creatures, who are made to *feel* the benefit of a national triumph at the moment they are otherwise assured of its value? Can, indeed, the former mode of rejoicing be reconciled with any sanction of rationality, while, in the utmost glare of the most splendid illumination, the stars above seem to look down millions of reproaches on us? A few simpletons, whose vacant stare may be gratified by unintelligible transparencies—by zig-zag rows of consuming tallow, and inch-long spires of smoking flame, may not easily be convinced of the wretched folly, if not the unwarrantable prodigality, of such farcical exhibitions; and your honest chandlers will not be dispossessed of their opinions on this subject, though Locke and his logic were to rise from the grave.—There is, however, another standard by which these things are considered—the sober sense of the thinking part of the country, and we are rejoiced to find how the general sentiment is operating on this subject. The town of Wellington has exhibited a dignified example of what ought to be done on those occasions, wherein nationality of feeling may appear to require publicity of expression, and we hope it will not be lost on the public. If the Marquis of Wellington has honoured that town by its selection for his title, the inhabitants have also shewn, by their good sense and the enlightened manner in which they have demonstrated their respect for that illustrious character, how well entitled it is to the honour which his Lordship's choice has conferred upon it."

The wife of a tradesman in High-street, Taunton, has been confined to her bed, ever since the night of the illumination, in consequence of a fright, occasioned by a pistol being discharged close to her ear. A number of minor accidents also occurred on the occasion.

James Dean, a boy in the employ of Mr. Waters, who plie the passage from Bulwell to Milford, was on Monday murdered, it is supposed, by a man about 40 years of age, in a blue jacket and trowsers. The boy had received from his master 36*s.* and directions to go to Milford. The man heard this, and went with him.—It was a thick fog, and cries of "Murder" were shortly heard from the Milford shore. A boat was seen by an artilleryman near the shore, from whence cries of "Murder," but faintly, proceeded, and something was heard as if thrown into the water. After this, the boat moved further off. The alarm was given, and about an hour afterwards, the passage-boat was discovered with blood on it; and subsequently, the body of the poor lad was picked up, his throat being cut in a shocking manner, with other marks of violence upon it.

## *TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

*Downing-street, September* 14, 1812.

A Dispatch, of which the following is an Extract, has been this day received at Earl Bathurst's Office, addressed to his Lordship by Gen. the Marquis of Wellington, dated Madrid, Aug. 18, 1812:—

Joseph Bonaparte retired from Ocana on the 16th inst. and his army are in march towards Valencia. The enemy have abandoned Toledo, which has been taken possession of by a party of the Guerillas of El Medico.—Since the capture of the Retiro, the garison of Guadalaxara, consisting of seven hundred men, has surrendered to the Empecinado by capitulation, on nearly the same terms as those which I granted to the garrison of the Retiro. By reports from Major-Gen. Clinton, I learn that part of the remains of the army of Portugal had moved forward from the neighbourhood of Burgos, and some of their detachments were understood to be in Valladolid on the 14th instant, Gen. Santocildes having withdrawn the troops of the army of Gallicia which occupied that town. Some of their detachments were likewise on the right of the Pisuerga.—I had expected they would make this movement as soon as I should get the troops together, when I undertook the march upon Madrid. By accounts from Lieut.-Gen. Sir Rowland Hill of the 12th, it appears that Gen. Drouet had drawn in his right, from La Guarena, but he still held Hornachos. By accounts from Cadiz, of the 6th instant, it appears that Gen. Villatte had returned to the blockade. Gen. Ballasteros had taken three hundred prisoners at Ossuna; and by the reports of the position of the troops, it appears that the road to Gibraltar is again open to him.

[This Gazette contains also an account of the capture of Le Bon Genie of Boulogne, of sixteen guns and sixty men, by the Bermuda sloop, Capt. Bremer. The enemy made a desperate resistance, and his loss has been severe; there being three killed and sixteen wonded, most of them severely.]

### BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

W. Pool, Owen's-place, Goswell-street-road, coal-merchant.
N. W. Cundy, New Norfolk-street, Hanover-square, dealer.

### BANKRUPTS.

T. Clinch, Crooked-lane, Cannon-street, boot and shoemaker.
W. J. W. Lindsey, High-street, Southwark, hosier.
W. Brown, Wood-street, Cheapside, silk-manufacturer.
H. Day and J. Hamerton, Lime-street, money-scriveners.
R. Walmesley, M. and W. Turner, Basinghall-street, merchants.
J. Coates, New Mills, Derby, grocer.

## *SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.*

### BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

A. Hancock, Witham, Essex, apothecary,
J. S. Fall, Spread-Eagle-court, Threadneedle-street, broker.

### BANKRUPTS.

M. Roberts, Dock-head, Surrey, grocer.
W. Parson and J. Smith, Manchester, booksellers.
C. Mayhew, Baptist-Chambers, Chancery-lane, scrivener.
S. T. Goodliff, Shouldham-street, Edgeware-road, builder.
R. Morton, Commercial-Road, Middlesex, master mariner.
T. Holbrook, Maiden-lane, St. Pancras, potter.
W. Simpson, Old Cock-lane, Shoreditch, baker.
T. Poulter, Petworth, Sussex, victualler.

VACCINATION.—The National Vaccine Establishment has just published its report, which eminently shews the utility of the institution. It states, that during the last year, in London alone, 3448 subjects have been vaccinated, by the surgeons of the establishment, and 23,794 charges of vaccine lymph supplied to the public; that not a single instance of small-pox has occurred in the metropolis, after vaccination, since the commencement of the practice; that previous to it the average of deaths within the bills of mortality, from small-pox, were 2000, and that during the last year, they amounted only to 751; that there is not a single instance throughout the kingdom, in which the small-pox has occurred after vaccination, that has proved fatal; that the most beneficial effects have been observable in the army and navy, from its introduction; that the reports from Ireland, Scotland, and various parts of the Continent, are extremely favourable; and that the prejudices excited against the practice being on the decline, it is every where gaining ground.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cons. Consols....59 3/8 3/4 | Omnium.... 6 1/4 1/2 prem.

Miss MARRIOTT, a lady who appeared some little time back on the London stage, has made her reappearance this season at Covent Garden, and is said to be much improved.—When she performs in pieces that are less theatrical and childish than *Pizarro* and *Foundlings of the Forest*, and that will enable us to make something like a real estimate of her talents, we shall be happy to pay her our respects.

PHILO-POLITICUS,—an ENGLISHMAN to N. VANSITTART, Esq.—and other Communications, next week.

# THE EXAMINER.

*LONDON*, SEPT. 20.

BONAPARTE, after a smart but ineffectual resistance on the part of the Russians, has taken Smolensk, and on the 27th of August, by the date of the last Bulletin, was beyond that place at Slawkovo, on the high road to Moscow. The capture of Smolensk, he tells us, with his usual ready seizure of every thing favourable, "appears to have a sad effect on the spirits of the Russians:—it was called Smolensk the sacred; Smolensk the strong; the key of Moscow,—besides a thousand other common sayings. Whoever has Smolensk, has Moscow, say the peasants."—The *Courier*, however, differs with the peasants, and informs us that Smolensk cannot be strong because it is built of wood. Truly a sage Editor, and superabundant in surprising pieces of information!—But nevertheless, Smolensk may have been both strong and sacred in the opinion of a half-barbarous people, and that is enough for BONAPARTE. When CORTES bent his main effort to take the Sacred Standard of the Mexicans, he knew very well that it was not sacred, and that being made of wood, it was not strong; but he knew also that the Mexicans thought it was both; and the capture of it enabled a handful of men to put myriads to flight. We do not mean to compare Smolensk the Sacred with the Sacred Standard, as to the effects of its capture; but reliances of this kind are all the same in their degree; and it may easily be conceived that an ignorant and superstitious people like the Russians are exceedingly dispirited by this blow to their popular credulities, and prepared to think of future triumphs on the part of the invader with less idea of resistance. The French are evidently getting on, and if, as the *Courier* still imagines, they get on by means of enticement from the Russians, it must be clear to every body else, that the latter are carrying the joke too far, when they give up their important cities, and set the popular feelings at nought. At first it was assured us, that BONAPARTE must speedily be starved, though he was then occupying one of the most fertile countries in Europe, and had all his communications open behind him:—then he was never to make any progress, because he would find nothing but waste and spoliation by the way:—and now he is to be enticed into fine cities and comfortable winter quarters, because "this," says the *Courier*, "has entered also into the calculations of ALEXANDER." It has evidently also entered into the calculations of NAPOLEON, and the latter, we believe, has hitherto shewn himself the better arithmetician.

The plain truth of the matter is this. The Russian Government is a despotism as well as the French; but being a more ignorant one, and having kept its subjects in a grosser slavery, Russia is one of those countries, the condition of which even a despotic Conqueror can materially improve. The inhabitants of such a country always feel this truth, though they may not reason about it; and the consequence is, that wanting the only real means of resistance to such a man,—the spirit of popular freedom and self-respect,—their grosser power falls before his more refined one. This was the case with Prussia, with Austria, and with Russia herself, as far as she made the trial before; and she now appears destined to finish the lesson she has so badly learnt.

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"There were reports strongly prevalent in town this day of great agitations in Holland, little short of insurrection, on account of the menaced new Conscription in that country, in order to send reinforcements to the North.—It is also reported, that a new battle had taken place between the French and Russians, in which the former had suffered severely. The enemy is said to have been near a marsh, which greatly impeded his operations."—*Sun, Sept. 19.*—The *Courier* also notices the same reports.

A Mail from Gottenburgh arrived yesterday morning. All the ships engaged for the Expedition are ordered to hold themselves in readiness. The intended restoration of Finland to Sweden in return for Swedish succour to Russia, is mentioned in the Gottenburgh letters.—There was a report of the French having experienced a defeat near Smolensk.—The loss of the French, in their attack upon that place, is stated, and probably not over-rated, at 10,000 men.—The Swedish Papers give a long account of the CROWN PRINCE'S voyage and reception at Abo. He was received with distinguished honour. The Emperor ALEXANDER paid him the first visit, and, after a long private conference, presented Count ROMANZOFF, Marshal TOLSTOW, and other Noblemen, to his Royal Highness. All the highest Russian Orders were conferred on him, and the city of Abo was illuminated in honour of him. He was to leave Abo on the 31st.

"We have the pleasure," says the St. Petersburgh Paper of August 13, "to lay before the public the letter of his Eminence the Metropolitan of Moscow, Platon, of the 26th July, to his Majesty the Emperor, and his Majesty's reply to the Metropolitan:—

"MOST GRACIOUS LORD AND EMPEROR,

"The chief Metropolis, Moscow, the new Jerusalem, receives as a mother her anointed into the arms of her affectionate sons, and whilst she has a foresight, through the rising mist, of her shining future glory of her Monarchy, sings in joyful transport, Hosanna to him that comes in the name of the Lord! Let the vaunting insolent Goliath carry the terrors of death from the borders of France into the provinces of Russia; the holy faith, that sling of the holy Russian, DAVID, will suddenly slit the forehead of his blood-thirsty haughtiness. This sanctified image of the

holy SUGURS, the ancient champion for the welfare of our native country, is presented to your Imperial Majesty. It gives me pain, that my decreasing faculties will not permit me to enjoy the view of your Majesty's beloved countenance. I send my prayers up to heaven, that the Almighty may of his grace advance his beloved people, and fulfil your Majesty's wishes.—Most gracious Lord, your Imperial Majesty's most submissive intercessor,

"PLATON,
"Metropolitan of Moscow."

ANSWER.

"MOST VENERABLE PLATON,

"I have received your letter, and, with the same, the image of the holy SUGURS. The first I have received with pleasure, as coming from a shepherd of the church, who is so highly respected by me; and the latter with veneration.—The sanctified image of the holy protector of the Russian armies, I have commanded to be given to the armed population of Moscow, which are training for the defence of their native country. May he obtain it through his intercession before the throne of GOD, and may he, by his prayers, lengthen the term of your years, which are ornamented with honour and renown. Recommending myself to your prayers, I remain with affection,

"ALEXANDER."

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A report was circulated on Friday, that a vessel, called the General Washington, had arrived at Liverpool, with an account that the President had called an extraordinary Meeting of the Congress, and that a resolution had been passed, revoking the Declaration of War. The whole of the report is a complete fabrication.

AMERICAN SEAMEN.—Care should be taken, that not a single American Seaman be compelled to serve against his country. There are still many in our service; and a most shameful practice prevails, of Press-gangs taking from the men they seize the protections and other documents necessary to prove that they are really Americans. Thus, when the poor fellows are dragged on board a King's ship, and apply for their discharge, they are told that they must procure it through their Consul. But how? their Consul can do nothing for them, without the very documents of which they have been robbed.—My Lord MELVILLE will not do his duty, unless he puts down such abominable practices

"Private letters from the Grand Army speak with enthusiasm of the ardour that animates the French troops and their Allies. Despondence on the contrary is on the increase in the Russian army. The light troops of the French army are rapidly approaching Moscow. That province affords already abundant resources to the conquerors. The Emperor continues in good health."—*Journal de Paris.*

We have still every reason for believing, that it is the intention of Ministers to dissolve Parliament some time about the 10th of next month.—*Times.*

The Commissioners for his Majesty's Land Revenue, have given notice of their intention to apply to Parliament for an Act to enable them to make a new street from Carlton house to Portland place. The street, it is said, is to be 100 feet wide, and in a right line from the entrance to the grand hall of Carlton-house to Piccadilly, where there is to be a small circus; from thence it is to go northward into a square on the site of Brewer-street, &c.; it is then to lead on north-westward to the top of King-street, and Swallow-street, and then in a right line to Portland-place. The plan likewise embraces the opening a street from the end of Pall-mall to St. Martin's Church, a square in the King's-mews, the opening of Jermyn-street at the east end, and that of Charles-street into the Haymarket, and King-street into St. James's-street.

A Morning Paper says, "his MAJESTY, we are concerned to state, has experienced another severe paroxysm since the last Quarterly Report of the QUEEN'S Council, which was more than six and thirty hours duration."

"The ministerial journals, to shew the zeal of their masters to reward military merit,—inform us, "the Regent has written with his own hand (what! *with his own facetious hand?*) to say he shall bestow the first vacant ribbon upon the Hero of Salamanca;" and a provision, similar to that of Lord NELSON'S family, is reported to be one of the first measures to be offered to Parliament. —These things are valuable only by *comparison.*—We, for our parts, can discover no distinction between a shop in Cheapside and a shop in Cornhill; and when we remember "two ribbons" being hawked about as a lure for political apostacy, and that "a ribbon" was the reward of Lord MOIRA'S hollow and theatrical juggle, we cannot think the empty decoration of "a ribbon" will be of any value when put in the scale with Lord WELLINGTON'S military reputation,—a reputation which the baubles of supple courtiers can neither add to nor deteriorate. And what is the extent of the additional grant proposed for his services?—2 or 3,000*l.* per annum! About a tithe of the idle sackings of the Lord, Viscount, Earl,—or we know not what, of BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.—But so it is:—give the HOBARTS and the CAMDENS their earldoms and reversions, and they care not if you load the WELLINGTONS and St. VINCENTS with honours and rewards till heraldry be exhausted, and not a three-shilling token be left in the public exchequer. But, touch not our TELLERSHIPS,—touch not our FREEHOLDS!"—*Stamford News.*

The Master of a Charity School in the West being called upon for an account of his charge, sent in the following delightful detail, at once shewing his own powers and the hopeful prospects of his pupils:—"Account of the Charity Scholars at ——'s School, from April the 27th, to May the 23d, 1812. Most of the Scholars has attended the School the most part of the time above-mentioned, but the parents of several of them has employen some of them part of the time. These under has beed employed:—AMERY THOMAS, JESSE REEVES, JAMES ROGERS, JESSE EVANS."

Yesterday se'nnight, a distressed female, with a child, was soliciting alms at Plymouth, in order to enable her to proceed on her journey to her home at Marazion, Cornwall. She had just returned from Spain, having followed the fortunes of her husband and son, a fine young man, 18 years of age, through two campaigns. Her husband was in the front rank, and her son in the centre, when a shot in battle brought the first to the ground; her son stepped into the front rank, and occupied the place of his father. In this situation, and with one foot unavoidably placed on the body of his fallen parent, the gallant youth also received a ball, and fell lifeless. On mentioning the fall of her son, the mourner was particularly affected.

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SIR,—As our late whiskered visitant is now "on his travels," I may venture to relate a short anecdote on that *terrific* part of our Hussars' apppearance. Passing a few months ago through a village near London, some men of the above corps were at the inn where I dined; to one of them (who had just returned from Spain) I observed "how soldier-like their Mustachios were." "They may be," said he, "but we do not like them *abroad.*" "Why not abroad," said I. "*Because the people do not take us for Englishmen.*"—Is it not a pity, Mr. Editor, that our brave fellows should be obliged to disguise themselves?

*Hackney Terrace, April 6, 1812.* P.

A man, it is well known, may be very devout, and yet a great scoundrel.—Dr. Clarke, in describing the magnificent ceremony of the Resurrection at Moscow, relates the following anecdote:—The loud chorus which burst forth at the entrance of the church, continued as the procession moved towards the throne, and after the Archbishop had taken his seat; when my attention was called off by seeing a Russian earnestly *crossing* himself with his right hand, while his left was employed in *picking* my companion's pocket of his handkerchief.

## *NEWGATE PRISON.*

The Editor of the *Examiner* is requested by the Sheriffs to state, in reply to the observations of an anonymous Correspondent, on the Regulations of the Prison of Newgate, addressed to them on Sunday the 6th inst., that, the same allegations were forwarded to them in a letter, and were the subject of an immediate personal conference some weeks since, with the parties complaining;—who, *at the recommendation of the Sheriffs*, prepared a Petition to the Court of Aldermen, by whom, in concurrence with the Judges, the Rules and Regulations of the said Prison are formed; which Petition was without delay presented by the Sheriffs to the Court of Aldermen, and referred to a Committee of that Court.

*London, September* 19, 1812.

## *THE RETURN HOME OF CATULLUS,*

### WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF THE PENINSULA OF SIRMIO, AND OF A FETE GIVEN THERE IN HIS HONOUR.

The following lines have already been published, but they have since been altered to greater closeness with the original, and are therefore more worthy of the reader's indulgence. The original was written by Catullus on his return from the province of Bithynia, whither he had accompanied the Prætor Memmius, for the purpose, it is supposed, of recruiting his finances. The disappointment which he is thought to have experienced, probably rendered the idea of his home the more welcome to him; and his loss of a brother during the journey, whom he appears to have loved, must have softened it into additional tenderness. Certainly it would be difficult to find, in the whole range of poetry, ancient and modern, a more thorough feeling for domestic enjoyment; and this is the more striking, inasmuch as from the state of manners in the ancient world, particularly its want of a proper appreciation of female society, home with them does not appear to have been that complete and magic circle of comfort which it is with ourselves. Yet here is an ancient Roman, a bachelor, and a dissolute man of pleasure, who speaks of a snug, domestic, unpolluted happiness, with as much sense of its value and quickness to its impressions, as the soundest homester among us. So delightful, above all others, are virtuous enjoyments to a superior mind, as long as it retains the least part of its better knowledge.

### TO THE PENINSULA OF SIRMIO.

O best of all the scatter'd spots that lie
In sea or lake,—apple of landscape's eye,—
How gladly do I drop within thy nest,
With what a sigh of full, contented rest,
Scarce trusting that my vagrant toil is o'er,
And that these eyes behold thee safe once more!
What, upon earth, is like a loose from care,
When the mind's load sinks in it's easy chair!
When we come home again, tir'd out, and spread
The loosen'd limbs o'er all the wish'd for bed!
This, this alone is worth an age of toil.
Hail, lovely Sirmio; hail, domestic soil!
Joy, my bright waters, joy! Your master's come!
Laugh, ev'ry dimple on the cheek of home!

### AD SIRMIONEM PENINSULAM.

Peninsularum Sirmio, insularumque
Ocelle, quascunque in liquentibus stagnis
Marique vasto fert uterque Neptunus,
Quam te libenter, quamque lætus inviso,
Vix mi ipse credens Thyniam atque Bithynos
Liquisse campos, & videre te in tuto!
O quid solutis est beatius curis,
Cum mens onus reponit, ac peregrino
Labore fessi venimus larem ad nostrum,
Desideratoque acquiescimus lecto!
Hoc est, quod unum pro laboribus tantis.
Salve, o venusta Sirmio, atque hero gaude;
Gaudete, vosque Lydiæ lacus undæ;
Ridete quidquid est domi cachinnorum!

Sirmio, now called Sermione, is a small peninsula, two miles in circumference, at the southern extremity of the Lake Garda in the territory of Verona. Though very thinly inhabited at present, it appears to have been a favourite spot with the Romans for country retirement; and the ruins of a magnificent house are still shewn to the traveller as marking out the residence of Catullus. It stood upon a rocky terrace directly looking over the water, and from the massiveness of the stone work, and the extent of it's scite and subterraneous passages, is said to give one the idea of a large palace. If so, and if it really belonged to Catullus, it was perhaps the largest house that ever poet possessed. It is certain, from his familiar acquaintance with Cicero and others, that he moved in the highest as well as lowest circles of Rome; and though he complains of his scanty circumstances in several parts of his writings, yet there is every reason to conclude, from others, that he ought to have been a wealthy man. Some commentators, upon the strength of the above lines and of one or two other passages, have conjectured that he was proprietor of the peninsula, and that it was a family inheritance. Be this as it may, the place itself appears to have been worthy of all that he said of it. The prospects are delightful, the air of a perpetual balminess, and the ground for the most part covered with olives. On an eminence, in the middle of it, is a Chapel dedicated to Saint Peter, which peeps out of a group of the tallest trees, and commands a view up the whole of the Lake, the borders of which, rising back like an amphitheatre, present a beautiful variety of rocks, vallies, and hills of wood, while the barks of the fishermen gleam about at intervals in the sunshine.—See an extract from the *Journal Historique des Operations Militaries du Siege de Peschiera*, in the Notes to M. Noel's prose translation of Catullus. Paris 1803.—This extract, after describing the ruins and neighbourhood above-mentioned, concludes with a curious circumstance connected with Catullus, which took place during the siege

of Peschiera. General Lacombe Saint-Michel, having, it seems, a taste for poetry and the classics, took pains to explore the peninsula, and being moved with enthusiasm by what he saw, resolved to have a festival on the spot in honour of Catullus. The French and Polish officers who had assisted at the siege, were accordingly invited, together with a number of the inhabitants, and among them, a Signor Anelli and his family,—a gentlemen, who is represented by M. Noel to be a successful follower of Metastasio. During the repast, the General and Signor Anelli took an opportunity of reciting and singing some pieces of their own composition, which had been inspired by the poetical recollections of the place; and among other toasts, the following are mentioned as the most interesting:—

"Catullus, an inhabitant of Sirmio and the most elegant of the Latin poets, whose effusions respire grace and enjoyment."

"Bonaparte, the *protector* of the sciences and *fine arts*, who has set the example of doing honour to great men in the very thick of battles and tumults, has celebrated Virgil at Mantua, and paid homage to Catullus in visiting the peninsula of Sirmio."

"Brune, General in Chief, who on all occasions has shewn favour to men of genius in Italy, and protected the sciences and fine arts."

"General Miollis, protector of the sciences and fine arts in Italy."

"General Lacombe Saint-Michel, who has done honour to the memory of Catullus at Sirmio, and is himself a successful cultivator of letters."

"The Poet Anelli. Like Catullus, he lives on the borders of the Lake Garda, and knows how to emulate that illustrious bard."

"The memory of Catullus," concludes the writer, "at the distance of nearly two thousand years from his death, was not without its use to his countrymen. During their festival given in his honour, the inhabitants of the modern Sirmio came and represented to the French General how burdensome it was to them to maintain the detachment which had replaced the Austrian garrison, and how much they had suffered from the waste occasioned by some of our soldiers. General Chasseloup, the first in command, received their deputies with the greatest cordiality, and not only gave orders on the spot for the departure of the troops stationed in that quarter, but desired an estimate to be drawn up of the losses sustained, and indemnity to be afforded the sufferers."

"Thus," says M. Noel, with a complacent nationality, which makes us both smile and look grave at this time of day, "every thing concurred to render the holiday a memorable epoch for the inhabitants; and history, with the renown of the poet, will always connect the recollection of French courtesy, which knows so well how to accord with French valour, and with the respect of our generals for the glory of letters and the *sufferings of humanity*."—*Poesies de Catulle*. Tom. 2. p. 183.

It is certainly creditable to the French, that with the assistance of their national vanity, their policy took a turn of this nature, and helped to diminish the horrors of war; and it is highly probable that many of them deluded themselves on such occasions, and really imagined they were knights errant in behalf of all that was classical and humane; but none but a people of lax morals, as well as complexional enthusiasm, could furnish a large body of persons, who would chuse to unite in this unmixed homage to the memory of a man like Catullus. It was in these specimens of animal spirit and indiscriminate levity, under the mask of an elegant and superior mind, that acute observers foresaw the result of their professions as a nation. However, it is useful to point out to those mere politicians, who do not know how to make a proper use of such things, that poetry may really do something for them, even in a day of disaster. M. Noel, in explaining one of the toasts on this occasion, informs us that when Bonaparte was on his road to Perseriano in order to negociate the peace of Campo Formio, he went out of his way to pay a visit to Sirmio, and that after the reduction of Mantua, he erected an obelisk in honour of Virgil, exempted the inhabitants from the usual contributions, and ordered indemnity to be made them for the losses which the war had occasioned. It would have been well for mankind, if Alexander and others, when they spared the family of Pindar and the native place of Euripides, had set no worse examples to the indiscriminate imitation of their admirers.

"But all our praises why should lords engross?"

We find in one of Cowper's letters, that a servant of his dining at an inn was exempted by the landlord from payment, when the latter understood who his master was; so that in this instance, says the poet, fame was not only something more than a bubble, but good beef and pudding into the bargain.

After rambling about in this manner from prose to poetry, and from poetry to prose, the reader will have no objection to repose with me on one of those noble Sonnets of Milton, which possess such a majestic simplicity, and are like blocks of unspotted marble, fresh out of the quarry.

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## WHEN THE ASSAULT WAS INTENDED TO THE CITY.

Captain, or Colonel, or Knight in arms,
Whose chance on these defenceless doors may seize,—
If deed of honour did thee ever please,
Guard them, and him within protect from harms.
He can requite thee, for he knows the charms
That call fame on such gentle acts as these,
And he can spread thy name o'er lands and seas,
Whatever clime the sun's bright circle warms.
Lift not thy spear against the Muses' bower:
The great Emathian Conqueror bid spare
The house of Pindarus, when temple and tower
Went to the ground;—and the repeated air
Of sad Electra's Poet had the power
To save th' Athenian walls from ruin bare.

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## *SPEECHES AT CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.*

To-morrow, according to an annual custom observed at Christ's Hospital, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Governors of the several Royal Hospitals, will attend divine service at the Church in Newgate-street, and after the sermon repair to the Great Hall, where two Orations will be delivered, the one in Latin by Edward Rice, the other in English by William Burges Hayne, the two senior scholars of the Grammar School. To such of our readers, as have a taste for literature in general, and like

to take an opportunity of renewing the happy impressions of their youth, it may not be uninteresting to learn the mode of proceeding on these occasions. The Lord Mayor, accompanied as above-mentioned, comes in state to the church, where the sermon is always preached, we believe, by a Gentleman who has been educated in the School. His state then precedes him to the Hall, which is really a noble one, adorned with enormous paintings by Verrio and others; and he takes his chair at the upper end with his mace before him on a table. Part of the company seat themselves behind him upon a rising set of benches; the rest occupy a double or treble range of forms down the sides of the Hall; and at the base of the oblong which they compose, accompanied by their Master in his robes, are the two senior scholars on a small platform directly opposite his Lordship. The audience are accustomed to express themselves highly gratified with the modest demeanour and clear earnest delivery of the young speakers, whose manner may be said to be almost characteristic of the Institution, which is a link between the lower and higher foundation Schools, inducing a sort of conscious humility on one hand, and a proper degree of pride founded upon their good discipline and behaviour on the other. When the speakers have finished, a collection is made, as at other schools, in contributions of silver, for the furtherance of their maintenance at College; and on leaving the Hall, a visitor may find an agreeable novelty in walking over the cloisters and other parts of the School, which altogether occupies a large scite of ground, and has surprised many a person, who, from its enclosure among houses, has been a hundred times in the neighbourhood and never dreamt of finding such a place in the heart of the city.—As this Foundation has lately attracted some particular, though not very pleasant attention, with respect to its governorship and economy, the Editor at a future opportunity will be happy to give his readers some account of it; and without being blind to it's defects, endeavour to do justice to those merits of it's Establishment, to which he himself, in common with some of his best and most accomplished friends, is indebted for education.

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## *THEATRICAL CORRESPONDENCE.*

### DRAMATIC EMANCIPATION.

Mr. Examiner,—Every thing has improved within a century except the Drama, because every thing else is free. The Stage only is subject to a monopoly.—All the success of a Dramatist depends on the taste, caprice, indolence, avarice, or jealousy, of three individuals, the Managers of the three London Theatres; for in England a piece is never represented for the first time on a provincial stage; and *Douglas* is probably a solitary instance of a drama first performed at Edinburgh.

When a Dramatist has presented his production to the London Manager, it is perhaps totally neglected; for above 200 dramas are annually offered to each of the great Theatres; and consequently if the piece be not recommended by the reputation or influence of the Author, it is never read at all. When he calls again in all humility to inquire, whether it is judged fit for representation, he has perhaps the mortification of finding that his manuscript has been mislaid. Many a good Author has renounced the Drama in disgust.

So long as the theatres enjoy exclusive privileges, neither Comedians nor Dramatists should be Managers.—Should a second Garrick give a specimen of his abilities to Kemble, or another *School for Scandal* be offered to Sheridan, would they be accepted? I wish not to insinuate that either circumstance has occurred; but they might occur; I speak in general; the jealousy of Authors and Actors is proverbial.

If the Stage were free, a Dramatist might follow the bent of his genius. He would introduce the characters that his judgment or fancy should prompt; and it would be the interest of the Manager to procure performers qualified to do them justice. Whereas now the Dramatist is reduced not only to consider the pretensions, the vanity, the abilities of the Actors and Actresses, but their age and corpulency. He must take their measure as well as the stage tailor.

If the Stage were free, every Manager would endeavour to induce an Author of talent to give him the preference; whereas now an Author must go cap in hand to solicit the favour of a Manager; and should he succeed in this, some Actor or Actress may think that the part destined for them would not exhibit them to advantage, and may refuse to co-operate. Few Authors of rank, of liberal sentiment, or independent fortune, would enter a green-room cabal. Hence the degeneracy of our Drama. Scenes of high life have been pourtrayed by individuals, who have had little intercourse with good company, and genteel comedy has given place to buffoonery and brogue.

Before 1737, though the Theatres were licensed, the Dramas were not; but the personal and political satire introduced on the Stage necessitated an Act, that every play should be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. This Act, reasonable and necessary as it may be, passed not without opposition, in which Lord Chesterfield exerted all his eloquence. Let this Act continue in force; but this very measure supercedes the necessity of licensing the Theatre itself. An improper play should not be acted at all; but all Britons have an equal right to act a proper one.

An individual is not prohibited from setting up a cotton or woollen manufactory, lest it should hurt the interest of a manufactory already established; and yet the ruin of a number of industrious journeymen has greater claims on the attention of the Legislature than that of a company of players.

What contradiction in the British jurisprudence! Actors are stiled vagrants, and yet a greater solicitude is taken about their welfare than about any other class of people. It is illiberal to stigmatise them with opprobrious denominations; but leave them to shift for themselves.

All laws should consider the interest of the public, and not that of Actors and Managers; for however great one's passion for the Theatre, one must allow that we could do without it. Should tailors or shoemakers refuse to work from a disgust at any ordinance, we should be in a dilemma; but should our comedians adopt any other profession, however their secession might be regretted by amateurs, it would cause no loss to the State.

Why has the system of travelling improved so much within a century? Its being left to itself. We travel with comfort and expedition, because every innkeeper is licensed to let post-horses, or to set up stage-coaches. If the post here were on the same footing as in Germany, we

should probably travel here as uncomfortably and slowly as there. Let any man open a theatre to act licensed plays. Theatric amusements might be made objects of taxation; for taxes must be laid on something, and no more proper object could be found. In France they contribute also to the poor-rates of the parish the tenth part of the entrance money: every ticket is stamped; a five shilling ticket is rated sixpence. This is called *le droit de l'indigence.* The British Government has been accused by its revilers of encouraging drunkenness for the benefit of the revenue. At any rate, it could incur no blame by encouraging dramatic amusements from motives of chatity and finance; and rival Managers would endeavour to procure the best performers, and render their theatres as convenient as possible; as rival innkeepers endeavour to render their chaises comfortable, and to procure excellent horses.

But if the Legislature should not judge proper to permit an indefinite number of Theatres, it would, though not entirely, terminate in part many of the present abuses, and render an essential service to the Drama, by licensing more Theatres than at present.

It is the height of absurdity to pay any attention to the patents granted by Charles II. London is three times as large as it was in his reign; and if the population then could support two Theatres, it could at present support six. Suppose the hackney-coaches should require, that their number should be limited to what it was in Charles the Second's time. Let any one look at the map of London at that period. In his time, people resided more in the country. If the numbers that have increased the population of London had settled at York or Exeter, could Charles's patentees have objected to their having a theatre? Poor Marybone is a posthumous child, unnamed in the will of his father.

London was then the capital of England alone; it has successively become the capital of Great Britain, and of the United Kingdom. Numbers, who would have filled the Theatres of Edinburgh or Dublin, now contribute to compose the London audiences. Is it just, that the room that is insufficient for those for whom it was originally destined, should be engrossed by those who were considered aliens in Charles's time? Have not English Actors also cause to complain, when Scotch and Irishmen are employed on these two Theatres? but not only Actors but Managers now are Irish and Scotchmen.—No unprejudiced mind would wish to deprive us of the talents of Sheridan, or of the countrymen of Home. By no means. Let them enter a competition, but not to the exclusion of our own people. They are welcome to their share, but the number of the loaves and fishes must be increased. Has not the King of the United Kingdom the same right to grant patents that the King of England had? If any attention must be paid to Charles's patents, let a reasonable interpretation be given to them. Let no new Theatre be erected in those parts of the town that were built at that period. Charles could so little foresee the future grandeur of London, when he granted them, as when he gave a tax upon the London coals to a natural son.

*(To be continued.)*

## *TO THE EARL OF LIVERPOOL.*

My Lord,—The situation of first Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland is sufficiently eminent, without any adventitious circumstances, to render the possessor of it superiorly notable; but your entrance into that situation was marked by incidents of conspicuous notoriety and of most imposing magnitude. On the lamented murder of Mr. Perceval, the House of Commons, justly and generally alarmed at the obvious and acknowledged weakness and incapacity of the remaining branches of his Administration, called for from the Prince Regent, who now rules this United Kingdom in the name and behalf of his beloved and revered Father, for a strong and efficient Ministry. Far from denying the justness of the call, that amiable and accomplished Prince, all whose manners are marked by the most endearing compliance with the wishes of the people, entered into three different negociations with three different parties, to effectuate the wish of the Commons House of Parliament; all of which terminated without advantage, from causes as perfectly well known as needless to be here detailed.

At length the STRONG and EFFICIENT Ministry received a head from your Lordship, followed by the wreck and remnant of the Addington Administration, conspicuous, even to a proverb, for its imbecility, and by a few other nameless names, whom none remember and whom none regard. It is true, that you had the recommendation of having been often and long employed by our good old King, now for several years labouring under one of the most distressing maladies to which mortality is heir; and for the errors and mistakes of insanity every man will be ready to frame some excuse, as every man is subject to them: but for the extravagant excesses of Bacchanalian orgies, should such have interfered (as it is whispered) in your present high appointment, no such palliation can be admitted; as they are, doubtless, among the lowest and the basest of the intemperate indulgences of our sensual appetites.

But leaving them to stand by themselves as they can, and without adverting to the mode of your designation,—of which, indeed, no person can pretend ignorance without possessing incurable and almost judicial blindness,—the public may wish for some intimation at least of that strength and those abilities (for assuredly as yet they know them not), which render your Lordship a tower of ability to Government—a bulwark inassailable by all opponents. And, undoubtedly, here I shall not bring forward into the foreground, as knowing well your innate modesty, the slightest mention of your famed march to Paris, however splendidly conceived or however wisely contrived; but leaving that ennobling exploit, so worthy of your sagacious wisdom and your enlightened prudence, to the executive abilities of some of the heroic Chieftains crowned with glory in the plains of Salamanca, we shall make our boast of (and are we not justified in so doing?) your skill in drilling majorities, your ability in gaining votes, and that even after the battle was thought to be lost; your complaisance in assuming the appearance of a Minister, when in reality a favourite female, or some creeping creature of a Court, known only to be despised or detested, directs the Cabinet and sways the pageant Premier;—of the striking versatility as well as strength of your talents, alike fitted for a Home Secretary, a Colonial Scribe, and the War Department; of your transcendent abilities in negociation, which not the famed Bonaparte himself could entrap, and which has been immortalized by a peace equally permanent and honourable. For art not

thou, my Lord, the worthy son of a worthy sire? nurtured, bred up, and tutored,—"line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little,"—in all the mysteries and profoundest arcana of the Buteah school;

"——————— whence flow'd
Pernicious streams, defiling all that drank."

Yet on this subject, whilst endeavouring to inform my countrymen of your Lordship's matchless might, of your invigorating prowess, of your unequalled and unexampled crafty politics, could I never be tired in descanting, so copious is the subject, so alluring the theme, so ever new the occasion;—no, not

"From morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve."

As Pompey (I should blush to compare your Lordship with an inferior personage), at the commencement of the Roman civil war with Cæsar, was wont to boast that on stamping with his foot armed legions would burst forth from the soil of Italy to support his cause; so your Lordship, whilst possessed of the distribution of the Secret Service Money, might at the very commencement of your Ministry as justly, but much more truly, have boasted that hundreds of voters were ready to say in Parliament, Aye or No, Content or Not-Content, at the magical intimation of your prevailing voice.

Thus have I clearly shewn to my countrymen, at least in my own estimation, that the accomplished and sagacious Prince Regent, who appointed you so deservedly to your present situation, has amply complied with the first wish of the House of Commons in naming a STRONG MINISTER, whether the nomination was influenced by Bacchus or Venus, or jointly by both, which it becomes not me to decide; nor is it, in truth, of consequence to know. But having thus gratuitously volunteered my services in your defence,—for I well know that your Lordship's lofty spirit contemns all hireling support,—I trust that it will be received favourably, and perhaps read attentively, by the exalted Lord Liverpool; yet, even failing of those gratifying rewards, the consciousness of honest intentions and of liberal views, will ever prove an ample remuneration to

LUCIUS.

*Sept.* 2, 1812.

## *DIABOLISM.*

MR. EXAMINER,—Of the various opinions that have prevailed among that portion of mankind, who, rejecting a Revelation, have adopted fanciful and speculative suggestions, may be regarded the belief in a pre-existent state of the soul of man, as having been that of a demon, but which the mercy of God has afforded an opportunity, in its new earthly condition, of purifying its nature, and of obtaining future happiness. Granting this opinion to be a true one, and allowing a further latitude to our imagination, by supposing that every human being was at once to drop his present, and resume his former state, while he still remained on the earth, how different would the various degrees of diabolism appear from those that would be suggested by the specious appearances assumed by hypocrisy throughout the world! What thousands who are considered among men as possessing but a small portion of original depravity, and indeed, often regarded as possessing a more than ordinary degree of virtue, would then be seen to be arch fiends of servility, cruelty, debauchery, peculation, envy, avarice, and assumed patriotism. In what very different shapes should we behold expectant heirs, who are cursing the longevity of their best friends, to whom they assume an ardour of affection, while gazing with avaricious longing on their treasures. Instead of gaily apparelled courtiers smirking at the levees of some Princes with assumed respect and esteem, we should behold a crowd of hideous forms grinning with mutual contempt at each other, and at the object of their present affected adoration. We should then see, stalking in all their odiousness, vanity, ignorance, indolence, gaming, drunkenness, gluttony, adultery, and political venality, and we should see all their hideous aspects combined, enthroned and sceptered with their Prince of Darkness. How in many a consecrated pulpit would the seemingly white robe of sanctity fall off, and discover to us bigotry, state truckling, avarice, and ambition; and in many a pew, pharisaic piety, and the mere prejudice of education. In legislative assemblies and courts, we should perceive, above every other place, the greatest proportion of striking contrasts to former appearances. In its own undisguised form we should discover the grossest selfishness, instead of disinterestedness; total insensibility to the happiness of the human race, instead of ardour for its welfare; servility to power, instead of patriotism and independence. If not prevented by disgust, how should we smile to see the sudden transformation into his real shape, a shape explanatory of the real feelings,—of a courtier in the act of kissing the hand of a prince whom he despises for being so much like himself. How would we smile to hear the sounds of adulation from another sycophant, in addressing a tyrannical, avaricious, petulant, dirty, German Princess, exchanged for the howling of demoniacal hatred at a regal imp. How hideously ridiculous to see grave Judges, who have affected to hold the scales of Justice even, transformed into more than usually malignant demons, who delight in inflicting imprisonments upon objects undeserving of them, in order to gratify evil spirits of still higher rank than themselves, and especially upon such justly indignant beings who have uttered free thoughts respecting the odious natures of those evil spirits, and have humanely deprecated the cruel infliction of lash hissing tortures on the uncovered backs of writhing wretches.

In fine, how ludicrously appalling would it be to find our globe converted into a terrestrial pandemonium, by an immense number of beings, who, not having availed themselves of their human existence to rectify the impurity of their nature, had been transformed into their original diabolism. How surprizing to the greater portion of those who had been and are still human, and who were led to judge of men less by realities than appearances, to find those miserable and transformed beings to consist, in a great measure, of such as had been looked up to by mankind as of a more excellent order of men—as the flower of the human race. How still more surprizing to find, that many of those who were stigmatized by vindictive bigotry, ignorance, prejudice, and interested power, as vile, and deserving of being punished as public examples, and thus held forth to unjust contempt, hatred, and persecution, are among the very best of those, who, by the exaltation of their nature, are still continued by the Supreme as embellishments to human existence, rendering that earth tolerable, and in some degree delightful, which, from the intermixture in it of so many of the above described diabolical beings, would be a region of depravity and woe.

R. H.



## *HISTORY OF THE LUDDITES.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—In conformity to my promise, I now proceed to detail the observations I made, and the circumstances I collected, on the nature of those associations formed (in the *slang phrase*) under the command of *General Ludd*, in the manufacturing districts, through which I travelled on my road to the North.

Throughout the populous county of Leicester, there has never been any disturbances, except by some partial inroads made by the irritated malcontents from Nottinghamshire. The cause of this state of quietude, when compared with the riotous proceedings of the artizans in the adjoining county, is to be ascribed to the people in general having full employment, the goods being of a peculiar kind, which met a ready sale in the home market, and the masters never having resorted to those schemes of extortion, upon their workmen, which prevailed elsewhere to such an excess.

In Nottingham, where *General Ludd* first erected his standard, a variety of causes concurred to produce those violent proceedings, which, at one time, threatened to unhinge the whole order of society. There are several species of manufactures from cotton and silk carried on, in all of which there are great numbers employed. Silk, for a long time, was both so excessively dear and scarce, that what little was procured, did not pay the manufacturer for working up into lace; and the inferior sorts, which were woven into stockings, could scarcely procure a market, at the advanced prices at which it was necessary for them to be rated. This cause of course diminished the hands employed in the silk trade, and increased the number of those employed upon cotton, &c. &c. The market for cotton and worsted goods was, in consequence, soon overstocked; and though wages declined in the same proportion as the demand for workmen lessened, the evil was terribly increased by many unprincipled masters giving the people for their wages the goods they had themselves manufactured, in lieu of the price in money which they had contracted for. The masters, no doubt, complained that they had not money to pay them with, and in some cases it might be so; but many who were rich made use of that argument only as a pretext for not parting with their money. By this mode of payment the subsistence of the workmen was diminished almost to a nullity, for the price given for those goods by the people who supplied them with necessaries, was either so small, or the provisions they received so dear, that the artizan at length was brought to the utmost distress; whilst the manufacturer, in the mean time, was making money by repurchasing, for a trifle, those very goods that he had before given to the mechanics as their wages. The decreasing demand for goods to the Continent, and the overstocked shops of every retail dealer in the kingdom, arising from the trifling sale and the necessities of the people, began to make the manufacturers themselves feel those difficulties which their workmen had already experienced. To evade the blow, however, a new species of low-priced goods began to be manufactured, by means of Frames and Looms of greater magnitude than ever before had been resorted to. Those large engines for weaving produced *entire webs* instead of a single stocking, as was formerly made from a frame, and the stockings from thence were cut out in pieces and sewed, resembling those goods wove upon the old stocking frames. A new kind of cheap lace was also made from larger frames, by which labour was greatly diminished; but both of these kinds of goods, though sold at an extremely low price, were cheap only to the eye, for they were deceitfully got up, and could undergo little wearing. They served indeed the purposes of the manufacturer, for though they were sold cheap, the goods left a profit. The workmen, however, who were before badly supplied with either labour or money, were now reduced to the most abject stage of misery. The associations formerly entered into by those machanics, for providing for their sick and aged members, were about this time new modelled, and funds were provided, partly out of the old, but principally out of the new, establishments, upon an extended principle of combination against the manufacturers and their odious new frames. Their organization was cemented by an oath of secrecy; and (if my information be correct) they selected their different officers with as much regularity and judgment as if they were going to carry on war on an extended scale. This combination generally assembled at night, on Sherwood Forest, from whence divisions and subdivisions sallied forth to the objects of their attack. Orders were given not to injure any one in his person or property, except resistance was made; and, I am informed, not a single person lost his life, except he resisted their attacks with fire-arms. Watches and outposts were regularly stationed to prevent alarm; and when the frames, which were the objects of their animosity, were destroyed, they either dispersed after the roll was called, or followed up the attack in another quarter. So sudden and so alert were they in their movements, that a party of soldiers, who were frequently on all sides within call, did not know of their visits till the mischief was done. There was a curious instance of their dexterity at a village, where a file of soldiers had been stationed, and where two of those soldiers were watching a house, in which there were five or six frames.—Four Luddites started on a sudden upon those soldiers, and while they pinioned their arms and kept their mouths shut, two others broke all the frames in a few seconds. They then retired with precipitation, and the alarm was given by the soldiers; but, in an instant, several of those soldiers, in pursuit, had their heels kicked from under them, and after getting up, they heard the signal of the Luddites dispersing in a very opposite quarter. Having a perfect acquaintance with the country, they completely eluded pursuit; and, in the instance of a great body of them crossing the Trent, and dividing their forces, the more effectually to accomplish their work of destruction, their route was detected, and soldiers were planted on all the probable crossing points of the river, to intercept them on their return. The outposts of the Luddites quickly discovered their danger, and communicated to the rest the trap laid for them; but they had provided for such a disappointment, and had absolutely a milk boat hid in a winding corner of the river, by which they got over unperceived by a single soldier. The attacking parties had their faces either blackened or covered with crape, but the outposts had nothing to distinguish them, or nothing about them by which they could be detected. I have never heard of one of them having ever been seized in their nocturnal expeditions; and those who were detected, were informed against, afterwards, by some of those who had known them. One of these informers, by whom several were con-